



SOCCER ACTION

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VIVA ITALIA:14

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●Australia, ousted by Scotland, won't be there, but the 13th World Cup in Mexico in June promises to be the most fascinating, colorful and evenly-matched tournament in the history of the competition.

All six former winners will be among the 24, and not since the 1954 finals in Switzerland, has the event held the prospect of so much quality and skill. The decline of mighty Brazil throws up inviting opportunities for Europe's newer wave of imaginative attacking teams.

Foremost among them will be little Denmark, which appears to be Europe's strongest contestant. Its biggest hurdle will be the heat and humidity of Mexico.

Michel Platini, again voted European footballer of the year, will be the maestro among maestros. With Diego Maradona appearing for Argentina, we will be able to determine which of them is the world's best — a position similar to 1974 when Franz Beckenbauer of West Germany and Johan Cruyff vied for that title.

"SOCCER ACTION" will provide a comprehensive, colorful and exciting lead-up to the World Cup finals in every edition from now on.

Here, and on pages 8 and 9, PAUL MOON profiles briefly the 24 finalists, and from next week, he will present each of the teams in depth. FRANCE, the team of Platini, will be first in the series. Don't miss a single copy of "SOCCER ACTION". If your newsagency doesn't stock it, HASSLE HIM

GROUP A: ITALY

●Despite Italy's woeful form since its 1982 triumph, only a fool would dismiss its chances in Mexico.

Italy '86 will probably include Giuseppe Bergomi, Antonio Cabrini, Gaetano Scirea, Bruno Conti, Marco Tardelli and Alessandro Altobelli — all survivors from Spain and players of true, proven class.

They will be complemented by gifted members of the "new generation", all of whom have thrived in the toughest domestic league in the world. Prominent among them are Salvatore Bagni, Pietro Vierchowod, Pietro Fanna, Bruno Giordano, Giuseppe Galderisi and Antonio Di Gennaro.

Italy's prospects hinge upon the ability of these less experienced players to reproduce their club form when wearing the famous blue jersey, something which has been beyond them to date.

Fazio Bearzot's side oozes class and the Mexican conditions will probably suit Italy more than any other European team (they did in 1970, when Azzurri were runners up to a truly great Brazilian combination).

GROUP B: MEXICO

●It is now or never for Mexico.

No Mexican side previously has gone into a finals better prepared or better performed than the 1986 squad promises to be and, as the host, it will enjoy many advantages.

Yugoslav coach Veljko Milutinovic has moulded a fine team, one which beat Poland, West Germany and England in 1985 and held Italy to a draw.

It contains players of true class in Real Madrid striker Hugo Sanchez (currently rated the Spanish League's best striker), his spearhead twin Luis Flores and the pacy, penetrative midfielders Tomas Boy and Manuel Negrete.

Defence though is a potential Achilles heel. It lacks height and the back four players have an alarming tendency to lose concentration.

There is always a great deal of psychological pressure on the home side, particularly one expected to do well (e.g. Spain in 1982) but this Mexican side should improve its nation's woeful World Cup record.

Only once has Mexico reached the quarter finals and here it lost 1-4 to Italy before its own supporters at Toluca in 1974.

1986—World Cup of Platini and Denmark



●The Socceroos may have missed out, but Australia has a World Cup representative in Victorian referee Chris Bambridge, who will officiate at the finals. Bambridge is being congratulated by former Socceroo Peter Ollerton, player-coach of Croydon City. Picture: LES SHORROCK.

GROUP C: FRANCE

●Hailed as the best team in the world when it won the 1984 European Championship, France has lost its way.

It was beaten in World Cup qualifying games by Bulgaria and East Germany.

Bulgaria and East Germany achieved their successes by running midfielders Alain Giresse and Michel Platini into the ground, but will any teams be able to do likewise in Mexico's heat and thin air?

Apart from Fressse and Platini, France can call up candidates for most people's World Cup eleven, in Jean Tigana, Maxime Bossis and Dominique Rocheteau, as well as the highly promising Jose Touré.

But, suspicions remain that France does not travel well and has lost momentum since the redoubtable Michel Hidalgo retired after the European Championship triumph.

The French are among the likeliest sources of exhilarating entertainment and, if Platini hits his straps, they are capable of becoming Europe's first winners of the World Cup in Latin America.



●Platini

GROUP F: ENGLAND

●Although coaching the only European team to go through its qualifying games undefeated, Bobby Robson still has much polishing to do if England is to be a viable contender for the World Cup.

Robson, though, does have the foundations for success.

Peter Shilton remains, day in, day out, the world's best goalkeeper; Kenny Sansom improves every match in his over-lapping full back role; Bryan Robson is now established as a midfielder of world class and Mark Hateley's international goalscoring record is exceptional.

England needs two or three players to emerge from the English First-Division's depth of mediocrity (as Alan Ball, Martin Peters and Geoff Hurst did in 1966) and enigmatic midfielder Glenn Hoddie to hit a purple patch.

If this happens, England's chances are at least the equal of any other European team.



●Robson

APIA SEEKS EUROPEAN SUPERSTAR

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MARGARITIS LOOKS TO AFRICA—p.7

SUMMER SOCCER

Victoria p. 10-11,
Sth Australia p. 12,
NSW p. 13

GROUP E: DENMARK

●The Danes should give those putting a few dollars on them a good run for their money and provide the Mundial with some of its most memorable moments.

Few teams in Mexico will have a more talented line up than the Danes.

Midfielders Jesper Olsen, Soren Lerby and Frank Arnesen compare with any of their contemporaries while the Preben Elkjaer — Larsen and Michael Laudrup strike force is capable of giving the best rearguards a torrid time.

In defence, much depends upon veteran captain Morten Olsen, who has the quality to transform a merely adequate defence into a rock-solid unit.

Of the preferred starting eleven, only goalkeeper Ole Quist is based in Denmark. But the task of preparing players scattered around Europe is not beyond coach Sepp Piontek.

This will be Denmark's first World Cup Finals appearance but it was unlucky to lose last year's European Championship semi-final, in a penalty shoot out, to Spain. Fortune tends to even itself out over a period and in Mexico the Scandinavians may go all the way.



●Elkjaer-Larsen

GROUP D: BRAZIL

●Amazingly, Brazil is among the least prepared of the competing teams.

Little happened until after the Brazilian soccer federation completed its presidential elections in January. Coach Tele Santana wasn't appointed until last week!

The biggest problem still to be confronted though is the composition of Brazil's starting line up. Do they rely upon the old guard, most of whom are over 30 and particularly vulnerable to the rigors of a tournament demanding two games or week, or upon the young players who did not look up to the mark during pre-qualification round friendlies.

Veterans Zico and Socrates were kingly in the preliminaries but both went into the New Year under an injury cloud, as did Falcao.

This leaves Junior (possibly converted to midfielder) and Toninho Cerezo as the only near certainties.

Most highly rated among the youngsters are Muller (a prolific goalscorer; hence nickname), Gilas midfielder and Walter Casagrande, a quicksilver striker of Italian extraction.

Many observers believe the current crop of young Brazilian players is the best produced for many years and success at the last two Coca Cola Cups adds credence to that theory, but will they ripen in time for the June kick off?



●Tele Santana



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● Charlie Yankos is the most expensive recruit of 1986 so far. The following transfers do not include those of Robbie Dunn (Macedonia to WA-Hellas) and Graham Jennings (Syd. Olympic to Syd. Croatia) which have yet to be finalised.



\$30,000
Charlie Yankos
(H'berg to WA-Hellas)



\$25,000
Robert Wheatley
(Blacktown to Marconi)



\$16,000
Alan Hunter
(Brisb. Lions to H'berg)



\$15,000
Robbie Slater
(St. Geo to Blacktown)



\$15,000
Ossie Latif
(Geo. Cross to Foots JUST)



\$12,000
Don Macleod
(Foots JUST to Blacktown)



\$12,000
Steve Winn
(H'berg to Inter-Monaro)



\$10,000
Tony Pezzano
(SC-Hakoah to APIA)



\$9000
Alex Bundalo
(Woll. v. APIA)



\$9000
Shaun Parton
(Melb Croatia to Geo Cross)



\$8000
Ian Roodhouse
(Box Hill to Makedonia)



\$7500
Gordon Flavell
(Mak. v. G.Gully)



\$6000
Richard Miranda
(BU Juve to SM Hellas)



\$6000
Peter Willis
(Woll to Blacktown)



\$5000
Sean Keogh
(BU Juve to Geo Cross)



\$4000
Jeff Ainsworth
(Penrith to Blacktown)

Yankos tops transfers

\$1500
Warwick Young
(St. Geo to W'gong)

\$1000
Roberto Giraldo
(Fairy Meadows to W'gong)

\$1000
Darren Stewart
(Newc Rosebud to APIA)

\$500
Jock Morlando
(Fairy Meadows to W'gong)

\$1000
Zivko Hristovski
(W'gong to APIA)

\$500
Paul Wilde
(Azzurri to AC-Juve)

Overseas imports and free transfers:

To GREEN GULLY: Dave Nixon (from Linfield, Ireland), Scott Fraser (from Glasgow Rangers).

To WOLLONGONG: Willie Murray (from Avale), Brian Cokely (Wales), Saul Rivero (Penarol, Uruguay).

To NEWCASTLE-ROSEBUD: John Cavanagh (from Rochdale), Paul Crabtree (Burnley), Ian Bannan (Lake Macquarie), Peter Dobbins (Highfield Azzurri), Dale Rowney (Cardiff).

To MELBOURNE CROATIA: Luka Bonacio (from Yugoslavia — ex Hajduk, Malaga, VFL Bochum), Goran Runje (Mornington), Davor Todoric (Zadar, Yugoslavia).

To ST. GEORGE BUDAPEST: Miklos Orszagh (AIK Topola, Yug.), Zoran Beluzic (Novi Sad).

To HEIDELBERG-ALEXANDER: Andy Higgins (from Hellenic, Sth Africa).

To WEST ADELAIDE HELLAS: Kevin Mabbutt (Crystal Palace — pending), Lou Hristodoulou (A.I.S.).

To SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS: Chris Andriotis (Clifton Hill).

To SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Richard Burke (from England, ex-Everton, Washington Diplomats), Vicente Estaville (Uruguay Auburn).

To BLACKTOWN CITY: Joe Carroll (Footscray JUST), Peter Denyer (Northampton Town, UK), Darren Northam (A.I.S.), David Sharp (A.I.S.).

To INTER MONARO: Victor Trajanovski (from Yugoslavia), Ross Pinto (Yugal).

To SYDNEY CITY HAKOAH: Alex McPherson (Marconi), Robert Hooker (A.I.S.), John Spanos (Blacktown).

To MARCONI: Paul Jones (A.I.S.).

To PRESTON MAKEDONIA: Mile Necoski (Pelister, Yug.), Mike McLelland (A.I.S.).

Newcastle boss hits

at 14-team plan

Newcastle-Rosebud is one of at least seven clubs earmarked for death notices by the National Soccer League, according to Newcastle secretary Ernie Lamb.

"The league is determined to get rid of some clubs. Even if Newcastle finished in the finals we would not be confident of being retained in the new 14-team league in 1987," Lamb said.

"They want clubs that are willing to buy Rolls Royces when they can afford only Mini Mokes.

Slater, Macleod boost Blacktown

Blacktown has spent about \$40,000 in transfer fees to mount a bold championship campaign in the Northern Division and secure its NSL status in 1987 when the league reverts to a 14-team format.

St. George winger Robbie Slater switched to Blacktown last week for \$15,000 after being pursued by Marconi.

Other newcomers are Don Macleod (for \$12,000) and Joe

Carroll (no fee released) from Footscray J.U.S.T.; Peter Willis (\$6,000) from Wollongong; Geoff Ainsworth (\$4,000) from Penrith; Peter Denyer from English club Northampton Town and Darren Northam and David Sharpe (both free transfers) from the Institute of Sport in Canberra.

Gary Byrne and Tony Rasmussen have rejoined the first team squad after being

sidelined through injury. Adam Sandy has returned after a season in the U.K. and Northern Division youth Player of the Year, Sean Fudge, is expected to stake a strong claim for a first team berth.

"By far this is the strongest first team squad I've seen at Blacktown," said secretary-manager Peter Thorne.

Casey de Bruin, in his fourth season as coach, suddenly finds himself in the enviable position of having outstanding quality and depth in his squad, albeit that six of last year's first teamers have gone.

Stuart Selva and Cliff Pointer have retired, John McKie has joined St. George, Robbie Wheatley switched to Marconi and, of course, Phil O'Connor was killed in a crash last year. Rod Skeltern still is transfer listed.

Denyer, who spent three seasons with Portsmouth before joining Northampton Town, is a 27-year-old striker and whenever de Bruin decides to use just two up front, he may have to choose between Denyer and Carroll as Slater's partner. Slater though, is a wide player, who quite easily could be used as a flanking midfielder in a 4-2-2 formation, allowing both Denyer and Carroll to play up front.

In defence, Martin Bourke, Rasmussen, Ainsworth, Macleod, Willis and Paul Daley are vying for four spots while in midfield, de Bruin will have to choose between Brett Thornthwaite, Steve Knight, Sandy, Byrne and John Bradley.

Barry Hoare, who tied with Canberra's Tony Franken in "Soccer Action's" Medibank Private NSL Goalkeeper of the Year award last season, looks to have a stronghold over the keeper's post.

Assuming that de Bruin decides to play with three up front, his strongest line-up could be: Hoare - Bourke, Ainsworth, Macleod, Daley - Sandy, Byrne, Bradley - Slater, Denyer, Carroll.

"I believe some clubs will crash at the end of the year as the direct result of the money they will spend to try to qualify for the 14-team league.

"And I don't believe a 14-team league would last long. Some States seem to take the view that the best way to get rid of the NSL management is to allow them to go to 14.

"It didn't work last time they had 14, they expanded to 24 after 1984 in order to collect more affiliation fees to help erase the league's \$100,000 ills.

"Now they want to get rid of many of the clubs that helped cure those ills. And they're talking about an affiliation fee of about \$50,000 in a 14-team league, whereas we're paying about \$20,000 now."

NSL will decide whether the 14-team proposal reflects similar views held by State delegates who will vote on it at the ASF executive meeting in Sydney on February 8.

Northern NSW, Queensland, the ACT and probably Western Australia, will vote against the proposal.

NSW will decide whether the vote is won or lost. And NSW's vote depends on its clubs' attitude to the promotion-relegation arrangements and to the logistics of having to accommodate NSL clubs forced back to State competitions by the restructuring.

Super league

A NSW super league, incorporating the "dumped" clubs and the best from the State League, is under consideration, but that would lead to the remaining State clubs being downgraded, meaning they would oppose the move. On the other hand, there would be political support for clubs being promoted right through the divisions to make up the numbers.

Newcastle Rosebud, like Footscray J.U.S.T. in the south, is back in the NSL even though it finished last in 1985. In both cases, no team was available to fill the vacancy.

Irrespective of what happens when the NSL applies its criteria for membership to the applicants for the 14-team league, Newcastle is determined to give itself a fighting chance by finishing higher up the ladder.

The criteria include: administrative, ground facilities, crowd support and financial security.

Only the two divisional grand final winners and the teams that finish on top of the two divisions will be admitted to the new league automatically.

To boost its on-field chance of success, Newcastle-Rosebud

will import two players from England.

They are: John Cavanagh, 24, a utility player who has served Rochdale in the Fourth Division and Oldham Athletic in the Third Division; and Paul Crabtree, 19, a midfielder who broke into the Burnley senior team at 17.

However, according to Ernie Lamb, Newcastle-Rosebud will operate on a total club budget of only \$200,000 — probably the lowest in the league. Low it may be, but it ensures that Newcastle operates in the black.

Stalwart defender Mike Boogaard has switched to St. George Budapest, young striker Darren Stewart has gone to APIA, and Sydney Olympic has shown keen interest in Simon Brandt.

Midfielder John McQuarrie wants more money and so he too may leave. However, Joe Senkalski has resigned after an initial contract dispute.

New coach

Peter Irving, player-coach for Edgeworth for seven seasons and more recently coach of Cardiff and Newcastle-Australia, is Newcastle-Rosebud's new coach, replacing Willie Gallagher who quit. Irving, 41, who played in England with Burnley and Bury, took Edgeworth to two championships, a grand final victory and two pre-season finals. His team was defeated for the entire 1979 season. In fact, it went 42 successive games before being beaten. He also guided Cardiff to the 1984 championship and grand final.

Irving has been trying out Ian Bannan from Lake Macquarie (previously with Weston) for the centre-back position vacated by Boogaard. Bannan played in England for Rochdale.

Negotiations also are under way with Bill Amey, who played NSL soccer with Newcastle KB United and West Adelaide Hellas.

Irving said that during the NSW Ampol Cup he would try out Peter Dobbins, a midfielder of forward from Highfield Azzurri, Dale Rowney, a forward from Cardiff, and youth team players Matt Garland (full back), Terry Mason (forward) and Tony Razmovski (midfielder).

Newcastle-Rosebud's strongest line-up after its two English imports arrive in about a month's time, appears to be: Clint Gosling — Ralph Meier, Ian Bannan, Mark Jones, Matt Garland — Simon Brandt (if he stays), Joe Senkalski, Neil Owens, Paul Crabtree — Dave Todd, John Cavanagh.

Superstar set for APIA

One of the finest players in Europe, currently captain of his club, is on the verge of agreeing terms with APIA Leichhardt.

APIA boss Rale Rasie has been negotiating with the player, one of two top European signings he hopes to snare. Both players have represented their country at full international level.

Rasie will release the player's names in the next week, immediately after concluding negotiations.

Rasie also has been active on the domestic front, signing Tony Pezzano from Sydney City Hakoah for \$10,000, Alex Bundalo (for \$9,000) and Jim Hristovski (\$1,000) from Wollongong, and Darren Stewart (\$1,000) from Newcastle-Rosebud.

However, midfielder Tom McCulloch is on the outer and has asked to be cleared to play overseas. McCulloch is listed at \$35,000 on the Sydney market but that figure drops to \$22,000 should he join an overseas club.

"It's really, really sad that a young player of Tom McCulloch's calibre should be confused about his future by listening to bastards who have done and will do absolutely nothing for soccer in this country," said Rasie.

Rob Catlin also is in APIA's transfer list. His fee is \$8,000.

Mark Koussas trained with APIA last week and his transfer from Sydney Olympic was expected to go through as we went to press.

Rasie expects big things from young midfielder Vic Masi, who is under serious consideration for a first team spot. Here is Rasie's first team squad:

GOALKEEPERS:

PEZZANO: DEFENDERS: Arno Bertogno, Bertie Mariani, Mark Brown, Hristovski. MIDFIELDERS: Bundalo, Jim Hamilton, Tom Steven, Terry Butler, Masi.

FORWARDS: Vice Colaguri, Kerry Caban, Louis Dounis, Stewart, Koussas.

● Rasie's best line up until the overseas stars arrive, could be: Pezzano - Hristovski, Bertogno, Mariani, Brown - Bundalo, Hamilton, Butler, Masi - Caban, Koussas.

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Mabbutt to bolster Westad's title tilt

Charlie Yankos . . . Robbie Dunn . . . Brian McLaughlin . . . Lou Hristodoulou . . . and now, Kevin Mabbutt!

He's the man expected to give West Adelaide Hellas the attacking power it needs to challenge for its second NSL championship. It won its previous title in 1978.

Mabbutt, whose brother Gary plays for Tottenham Hotspur, scored 29 goals in 128 games with Bristol City and, up to the start of the 1985-86 season, 22 goals in 75 games with Crystal Palace.

If West Adelaide Hellas succeeds in signing him, he would link up in attack with 1985 top-scorer Gary Price (11 goals) and Hristodoulou, who has returned from the Australian Institute of Sport. Hristodoulou played for Australia in the World Youth Championships last year, as the attacking partner for Chris Kalantzis.

Even without Mabbutt, West Adelaide's recruiting drive has been the most successful in the NSL so far.

And it is linked directly with the NSL's decision to revert to an elite 14-team format in 1987.

West Adelaide Hellas, quite clearly, is not about to be left out! President Frank Karagiannis, the driving force behind ambitious Hellas, has spared no expense to recapture the glory of 1978 when the team included champions like Peter Boyle, Neil McGachey, Con Kambas, Ian McGregor, Barry Reynolds and Vic Bosnic.

McLaughlin is the new mid-field general at Hellas. Once hailed as "the new Dalglish", McLaughlin played for Celtic, Ayr United, Hamilton Academicals, Falkirk and Mowbray.

Yankos will take over from Graham Honeyman as sweeper, with Honeyman moving into midfield.

After 42 games for Australia over two and a half seasons, Yankos has emerged as the nation's No. 1 defender at the age of only 24.

Yankos said he expects West Adelaide to finish among the top two in the NSL. He and Dunn will, no doubt, take the central defensive positions, along with Brenton Hiera, meaning Tim Brown may miss out.

Dunn joined West Adelaide from Perth and established his reputation before switching to Makedonia for the 1984 season. He played 11 games for Australia after being elevated to the Socceroo squad by coach Frank Arok last year, and appears certain to replace Steve O'Connor as a regular in the Socceroo defence.

Despite the influx of talented players, West Adelaide has not yet transferred any of its 1985 staff to make room for the newcomers.

One thing is clear: competition for places in the senior team will be fiercer than it ever has been.

Among the few who can be regarded as first-choice players, are Allan Scott who can play left back or left midfield; Gary Price up front, and Honeyman.

McGachey has high hopes for Hristodoulou and believes he can successfully make the

transition from youth to senior soccer. Ally Crook, Gary Sproul and Martyn Crook will vie for the goalkeeper's position and George Konstantopoulos is back after ankle surgery, hoping to contest a forward position.

Steve Atsals will miss most of the year due to a bad ankle injury, leaving Chris Manou, Theo Stamatiopoulos, Bill Stefanopoulos and Mike Genikas as the other midfielders in the squad.

● The strongest combination appears to be: M. Crook — Yankos — Dunn, Hiera — Panagis, Honeyman, McLaughlin, Scott — Mabbutt, Price, Hristodoulou.

— LAURIE SCHWAB



● Robbie Dunn

Yankos move prompted Robbie Dunn

By CRAIG MacKENZIE

Socceroo defender Robbie Dunn officially informed Preston Makedonia last week of his intention to join West Adelaide Hellas and hoped that a transfer fee of about \$15,000 would secure the switch.

Dunn has received a job transfer to Adelaide, as has his wife, and the couple expect to leave Melbourne within a month.

Dunn's move has been prompted by more than merely financial considerations. At Westad he'll link up with Socceroo sweeper Charlie Yankos and hopes that their club partnership will prompt coach Frank Arok to use the pairing regularly in the national team.

"I. Westad hadn't signed Charlie, I wouldn't have joined them," said Dunn.

George McMillan and Gordon Flavell also have left Makedonia. McMillan is player-coach of Victorian State League side Thomastown while Flavell has joined Green Gully.

Ljube Petrovski, Richard Wilson, George Gagic, Nick Kotevski and Zoran Anastoski are transfer-listed. Petrovski has trained with Footscray J.U.S.T. while State League club Fawkner has shown interest in signing Wilson, the former Kiwi international goalkeeper.

Warren Spink is still in England and looks set to sign for Luton Town.

But Makedonia fans have plenty to look forward to if Mile Necoski lives up to his reputation. The 26-year-old midfielder from Pelister in Yugoslavia is expected to have as big an impact in his first season with Makedonia as did Zarko Odrak, now of Sydney Croatia. Necoski is expected to arrive in Australia within the next fortnight.

Graham Heys' future at Makedonia is clouded. There's little doubt that Heys would remain a valuable first-teamer yet there's talk that Melbourne Croatia could be interested in signing him. Makedonia has signed Ian Roodhouse, Ron Campbell, Mike McLellan and Nick van Egmond. Roodhouse joined from Box Hill for \$8,000; Campbell, Western Australia's 1985 Rothmans Medal winner, is from West Perth Macedonia and his fee is believed to have been about \$3,500 while van Egmond was on a free from Ringwood Wilhelmia as was McLellan from the Institute of Sport. Midfielder Zoran Ilioski is on his honeymoon and will return to Australia in March while Frankston Pines midfielder Paul Cooke and Sunbury midfielder George Traikovski have trained with Makedonia but are yet to sign.

Bill Murray is in his second year as coach and the new Makedonia president is George Kraschou. Former president John Brannov still is with the club and is handling player contracts and transfer fee negotiations.

● Murray's strongest line-up appears to be: Phil Tralanedes — McLellan, Ian Dobson, Ian Roodhouse, Con Opasalis — Ilioski, Necoski, George Petrov — Gary Cole, Steve Smith, Sean Lane.

AROK DEMANDS TOP-CLASS GAMES

Gold Cup our big cash lure

By LAURIE SCHWAB

Frank Arok will seek an assurance that the ASF will maintain a high level of international involvement before accepting the job of Australia's soccer supremo.

There is doubt that the ASF can afford regular international games now that ASF Marketing Ltd will no longer pick up the bill.

Arok is concerned about the progress of the Socceroos in 1986 and 1987, leading up to the proposed Gold Cup competition in 1988.

The Gold Cup, the most ambitious undertaking in Australian soccer history, would pit some of the world's leading nations against each other in an internationally televised tournament.

All South American countries have indicated that January would be ideal for them, and the ASF will try to lure Brazil, Argentina and Uruguay — all former World Cup winners. West Germany has indicated it is willing to take part and Italy says it too will play, providing the money is good enough.

The Gold Cup ensures that West Nally will maintain its investment in Australian soccer, at least until 1988.

The ASF therefore has the necessary finance for the World Under 16 Championship and the next World Youth Championship.

However, funding of the 1989-90 World Cup bid depends heavily on the success of the Gold Cup.

Arok would be made Australia's overall coaching supremo if he accepts the job. He probably would appoint Les Scheinling as coach of the national youth team, and also assign someone to the under 16 squad, so that continuity is maintained throughout the ranks.

"We need to involve a high level of involvement in international soccer," Arok said this week. "If not, I can't see us having success and I certainly don't want to be a failure."

"I want a bit more say in the decision-making process regarding the national team. I wouldn't want another instance of having to play Scotland at Olympic Park."

"You know how Canada qualified? They played against Guatemala in 25 cm of snow!"



● Frank Arok — re-appointment expected on February 8.

Easier path to Olympics

Oceania has been given a guaranteed place in the soccer tournament of the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul, South Korea.

The Socceroos will not have to play cut-throat "tag-on" games like those against Scotland in the World Cup last year.

They will, however, have to contend once more with Israel, which has been assigned to Oceania.

The other Oceania contestants will be Papua-New Guinea, New Zealand, Fiji and Taiwan, and the Olympic qualifying series will be held in 1987.

It is the first time since 1956 that Australia is participating in Olympic soccer. At the 1956 tournament, held in Melbourne, Australia beat Japan but lost to India.

Asia was given three places in the 1982 Olympics but this time South Korea, an Asian country, qualifies automatically as host. The ASF argued successfully that Asia should get only two other places, with the third going to Oceania.

The Socceroos' next World Cup program, meanwhile, will be no easier than it was last year, as they will have to play off against the fifth-placed South American team, home and away.

Whereas the senior Socceroos will be eligible for the 1988 Olympics, the competition will be restricted to under-23 players after 1992.

Socceroo coach Frank Arok will start work this year on reshaping slightly the team that reached the World Cup play-offs against Scotland, losing 0-2 in Glasgow and drawing 0-0 in Melbourne.

Older players Joe Watson, Steve O'Connor, Zarko Odrakovic and John Kosmina will be phased out and replaced by the likes of Graham Arnold, Robbie Dunn, Ian Gray and Frank Farina, although players outside the 1985 squad also will be given close consideration. Gary McDowell of SM-Hellas, for example, has an excellent chance of being included.

Meanwhile, ASF president Sir Arthur George, who has been in power since 1968, has said he will retire when his present term expires in December, 1987.

Michael Weinstein (Vic), John Constantine (NSW), Ian Brusasco (Qld) and Sam Pappasavas (NSL) are among the most likely candidates for Sir Arthur's position.

For the record, here are the details of Australia's World Cup matches against Scotland last year.

In Glasgow: SCOTLAND 2 (Cooper 53rd, McAvennie 58th) AUSTRALIA 0 at Hampden Park. Crowd 61,920.

SCOTLAND: Leighton 6 — Miller 7, McLeish 7, Malpas 7 — Nicol 8, Strachan 7 (Bett 83rd), Souness 8, Aitken 7 — McAvennie 7, Dalglish 8, (Sharpe 71st), Cooper 5.

AUSTRALIA: Greedy 7 — Yankos 9 — Davidson 8, Ratcliffe 8, O'Connor 8 (Dunn 82nd), Jennings 7 — Watson 3 (Patikas 65th), Murphy 7, Crino 7 — Mitchell 5, Kosmina 3.

In Melbourne: AUSTRALIA 0 Scotland 0 at Olympic Park. Crowd 29,500.

AUSTRALIA: Greedy 7 — Yankos 9 — Davidson 8, Ratcliffe 8, Dunn 7 (Farina 75th), Jennings 8 — Patikas 8, Crino 6 (Odzakov 68th), Murphy 10 — Mitchell 8, Kosmina 4.

SCOTLAND: Leighton 10 — Gough 8, McLeish 9, Miller 9 — McStay 7, Souness 5, Aitken 6, Malpas 6 — Speedie 6 (Sharpe 76th), McAvennie 5, Cooper 4.

— LAURIE SCHWAB

NSW v USSR

The USSR national team, which will play against France, Canada and Hungary in Group Three of the World Cup finals, will play only in NSW next month.

A proposed game in Melbourne has been called off because a Dire Straits rock concert on February 26 has made Olympic Park unavailable.

The Soviets will meet NSW at St. George Stadium on Sunday, February 23, and Northern NSW at a ground yet to be chosen on Tuesday, February 25.

young midfielder George Kuiscar from the Institute of Sport.

Thompson's first team squad is:

GOALKEEPERS: George Economopoulos, Franken (if available).

DEFENDERS: Paul Ontong, Peter Burke, Jim Harkins, Jason Dunne.

MIDFIELDERS: Steve Bryant, John Mihalides, Tom Sermanni, Kulscar.

FORWARDS: Mannis Lamond, Ian Gibson.

It's clear that Thompson will bolster his squad before the start of the league season.

— CRAIG MACKENZIE

Canberra eyes Scottish striker

Canberra is trying to sign 29-year-old John Bourke, a tall, gangly central striker, who played alongside former Scottish international Ian Wallace at Dundee United and is a regular with Scottish First Division promotion contender Dumbarton.

Brian Brown of Brunsvick Juventus and Charlie Egan of New Melbourne Hellas played alongside Bourke at Dumbarton.

Dumbarton manager Dave Wilson will release Bourke should Dumbarton's promotion hopes dim. Canberra will know

within the next three weeks whether or not Bourke will be wearing its colors for the kick-off to the 1986 NSL season.

Outstanding Canberra goalkeeper Tony Franken still is in Belgium trying to win a contract but Canberra coach Roy Thompson is hopeful that Franken will return shortly.

Striker Marko Perinovic is transfer listed at \$40,000; Terry Byrne is moving to Perth; Tommy English has returned to England, while Isaac Farrell has been released and is a free agent.

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Hitch for Bernal

Four appearances for Australia's under 23 selection in the Merlion Cup tournament two years ago have proven a handicap for Andrew Bernal, as he attempts to break into professional soccer in Spain.

The former Australian Institute of Sport defender, now known as Andras Bernal, was wanted by the nursery team of major Spanish League outfit Sporting Gijon, which plays in a lower division of the competition.

Nursery teams, however,

are not permitted to field a foreigner — the designation of Bernal, by virtue of those four games in Singapore, despite him being a Spanish passport holder.

Having appeared in a side representing the Australian Soccer Federation, Bernal cannot be considered for Spanish national combinations in the future and, as the primary function of nursery teams (which are all attached to top clubs and not permitted to gain promotion to Division One) is to nurture home-grown potential internationalists, they must stick exclusively to local players.



• Andrew Bernal

Three options appear to be open to Bernal — he can try to win a contract with a Spanish Second or Third division club, attempt to make the grade elsewhere in Europe (theoretically easier now Spain is in the EEC) or return to Australia.

Odzakov to stay as age claims others

Where to now for Frank Arok and his national team?

(That is assuming Arok is re-appointed — which cannot be taken for granted until pledges of loyalty from certain personnel in the ASF are turned into reality by the World Cup committee on February 8).

Arok's first eleven, subject of the coach's steadfast loyalty over two and a half years, has been, or certainly will have been, decimated by age, retirement and expatriation.

Of that first-choice 5-3-2 lineup, Terry Greedy has already withdrawn from future consideration; Alan Davidson, Oscar Crino and David Mitchell are with overseas clubs and age must put a question mark on Joe Watson, Steve O'Connor and even David Ratcliffe and John Kosmina.

With more ruthlessness, one could also include Ken Murphy whose admirable work-rate having been his chief asset, must also be vulnerable to the passing years.

On that basis Arok is left with just two players, Charlie Yankos and Graham Jennings, of his first eleven.

Where the reserves are concerned age is certainly no problem. Except for Zarko Odzakov, they (Jeff Oliver, Ian Gray, Robbie Dunn, Tom McCulloch, Mike Petersen, Jim Patikas, Graham Arnold and Frank Farina) are all barely out of youth ranks.

But here, too, two crucial gaps have appeared: Patikas is now with one of Europe's richer clubs — and therefore his availability must be clouded — and Petersen, with a remarkable bout of youthful irrationality, has probably written himself out of Arok's mind.

Australia is not generously endowed with quality players and the lure of overseas clubs is now beginning to be alarming.

There are now seven former Socceroos playing in Europe (Mitchell, Patikas, Davidson, Peter Katholos, Crino, Eddie Kravacic and Renato Colusso).

And those two more (Craig Johnston and Tony Dorigo) who have not played for Australia but could if they truly committed themselves to do so.



LES MURRAY

The remaining expatriate, Andrew Bernal, is reportedly on his way back but he, in any case, has to prove himself at senior NSL level before he could be considered.

Most heart-breaking of all has been the departure of Oscar Crino.

And to a club in Cyprus of all places (though rumour has it that Crino's Cypriot club is stage one of an eventual move to a more glamorous European club).

Before departing, Crino was already Australia's most sought-after player.

I have been told the nature of the contract St George offered him and though I cannot divulge it, it was astonishingly attractive for a young man wanting to play soccer in Australia.

Sydney Croatia, after Crino had gone, was left a manager, then came along and bettered that offer but, it seems, even that wasn't good enough.

Crino, where our World Cup future is concerned, had been the success story of the 1986 campaign apart from that of Arok himself.

He had matured to complement his far-reaching technical gifts with the right attitude and in my view was the ideal choice to take over the eventual captaincy from John Kosmina.

Now, if we are to take Frank Arok's view that players have to be available for arduous long-term preparation, not just fly-by-night single matches, we probably have lost Crino.

So what would the new national team look like and how good would it be?

Of the first eleven players, apart from Yankos and Jennings, I believe Arok will retain Davidson, Ratcliffe, Murphy and Kosmina.

Davidson because he will probably leave Forest and set-

tle back home; Ratcliffe, Murphy and Kosmina because they are hard to replace and have it in them to continue perhaps even till the next World Cup.

Of the reserves, apart from Petersen and Patikas, I reckon he will retain them all — yes, including Zarko Odzakov. There have already been noises made that Odzakov is getting on and that the 1986 campaign was his last World Cup chance.

Actually he's no older than many of the others and age is probably imperative that he be retained.

So try this for a likely new first eleven: Oliver — Yankos — Davidson, Ratcliffe, Dunn, Jennings — McCulloch, Odzakov, Murphy — Arnold, Kosmina.

On the bench: Gray and Farina.

That's just 13 of the original 20 with whom Arok began the campaign.

So there will be some intriguing questions to be answered over the next few months.

Principally, whom will Arok call up to fill those gaps in his enlarged squad? what will happen to Marshall Soper? will Frank Arok persist with his tried tactical formation?

But looming is another, more crucial question: what to do with players based overseas?

Do we ignore them — in the knowledge that we need them for longer periods than their foreign clubs would permit?

Or do we count on them — in the knowledge that their talent, and professional experience, are too precious to be passed up?

Orszagh, Beluzic give Budapest a new dimension

By LAURIE SCHWAB

Miklos Orszagh and Zoran Beluzic will add a touch of continental flair to Frank Arok's St. George Budapest team.

Arok's association with Beluzic goes back 10 years when, as coach of Novi Sad, Arok included the then 15-year-old in the club's youth team.

Beluzic, a striker, went on to play in the only Second Division team that has won the Yugoslav Youth Cup.

"Physically, he is like Adrian Alston," Arok says, "and he has been Novi Sad's top scorer almost every year."

Orszagh, 32, is a midfielder who captained Yugoslav Second Division club AIK Topola for about six years.

He previously played for Red Star Belgrade in the First Division, Proleter in the First and Second Divisions and Vrbas in the Second Division.

"I expect Orszagh and Beluzic to add style and a new dimension to our team. It is vitally important that we have more flair," Arok said.

His other recruits are: stopper Mike Boogard (\$3500 from Newcastle-Rosebud), goalkeeper Mike Gibson (\$2500 from Perth) and striker John McKie (\$4000 from Blacktown).

Boogard, a former schoolboy international, has moved to Sydney and will partner Budapest's other stopper, Mike O'Shea, whose brother Robbie, a left back, has finally recovered from a broken leg that kept him out of the team for two years.

Gibson, who played for Australia B against China last year, will be understudy to Terry Greedy.

Greedy signed a new contract after an initial

dispute over pay, and also will be Arok's goalkeepers' coach, replacing Ron Tilsed who is one of four players to leave the club.

The others are former captain Peter Stone who was expected to join Melita Eagles; left back Steve Green, the former Azzurri-Perth player who, according to Arok, has "disappeared," and forward Robbie Slater.

Also missing from pre-season training was versatile Vic Bozanic, who runs a restaurant at Maroubra. Midfielder Mark Barton will be out for much of the season following knee reconstruction surgery.

Marconi, Sydney Olympic and APIA were among the clubs that showed interest in Slater, who was Budapest's best player in the second half of last season, before Slater joined Blacktown.

Arok has high hopes for six young players on the verge of senior selection. They are:

Mike Grbeviski, 18, who plays any position on the left side;

Craig Moffitt, 17, a centre back who captained the NSW youth team last season;

Scott Ollershaw, a striker who has been touring Britain with the Australian schoolboys team;

David Aranyi, a striker whose father Frank played for St. George Budapest in the sixties;

Scott Watson, another striker who has been touring with the Australian schoolboys team;

Anthony George, a full back who played for NSW under 18 side.

In addition, Arok is grooming two promising young goalkeepers, Keith Warren and Angelo Rodic.



• Budapest's stars of the future from top: Scott Watson, Scott Ollershaw, David Aranyi and Mike Grbeviski.

Souness, Spanos on way back

The comeback attempt of Ian Souness and the return of John Spanos are the main stories surrounding Sydney City Hakoah's build up to the 1986 season.

Souness (in 1978) and Spanos (1980) are former winners of the NSL under 21 Player of the Year award.

Souness was forced out of soccer due to a bad back injury over three years ago. He attempted a comeback about a year ago but failed. Recently, he's been playing indoor soccer and according to Hakoah coach Eddie Thomson, has been standing up well to the rigors of pre-season training.

Spanos's travels have taken him from his native Western Australia to Hakoah, Heidelberg, Marconi and back to Hakoah. He's on a free from Marconi and feels that at Hakoah he'll be able to resurrect his NSL career.

Robert Hooker, who starred with the youth Socceroos in Russia last year, also has returned to Hakoah and is bound to figure prominently

in Thomson's plans. Hooker probably will vie with Jean Paul de Marigny and Ean Redigues for the full back spots.

Jim Cant and Keith Falconer have been transfer listed. Cant will appeal against the \$10,000 fee placed on his head and is tipped to join either Canberra or Inter-Monaro.

Alex McPherson's arrival on a free from Marconi will fill the gap left by Tony Pezzano's \$10,000 transfer to APIA.

Thomson's first team squad is:

GOALKEEPERS: McPherson, Clarke.

DEFENDERS: Rodriguez, Hooker, de Marigny, Steve O'Connor, Alex Robertson, Spanos, Gerard Gome.

MIDFIELDERS: Paul Kay, Graham Patterson, Joe Watson, Murray Barnes, Souness, Peter Falconer.

FORWARDS: Frank Farina, John Kosmina, Grant Lee, Graham Fletcher.

• Thomson's strongest line-up appears to be: Clarke — Hooker, O'Connor, Robertson, de Marigny — Watson, Gomez, Kay — Farina, Kosmina, Lee.



• Ian Souness (left) receives the NSL under 21 player of the year award for 1978 from "Soccer Action" columnist Andrew Dottle.

CANNELL ON THE OUTER

"Stuart Cannell didn't want to play for us in the Buffalo Gold Cup so we've suggested to him that perhaps its better if he doesn't play for us for the whole of the season and he's definitely on the transfer list."

So says Green Gully president Gully Spiteri.

Cannell and Gully failed to reach agreement over a new contract and also failed to reach agreement over terms for playing in the Buffalo Gold Cup when the club approached him to turn out in the pre-season competition which kicked off last week.

Cannell is listed at \$15,000. Gully still is talking terms with Tommy Cumming but has bought middlefield strongman Gordon Flavell from Preston Macedonia for \$7,500 and hasn't given up hope of signing defender Steve Douglas from Albion Turk Gucu, despite Footscray J.U.S.T.'s confidence about snaring the talented youngster.

Green Gully has signed ex-Glasgow Rangers defender Scott Fraser and midfielder David Nixon from Northern Ireland. Nixon had a successful stint with Victorian State League club Northcote in 1982. Both players are yet to arrive in Australia.

New Gully coach George Murray is some weeks away from being asked to work with a full first team squad.

George Campbell's tendon problems will sideline him for perhaps another three weeks while David Hogben, who had an Achilles operation in the close season, will be out of action for another seven weeks.

To add to Murray's problems, Ken Smart and Claude Lucchesi were still on holiday as we went to press, Andrew Young, who returned to Canberra last year, is undecided about his future, while Paul Beranic, who played on loan with Sunbury last year, was unable to accept Gully's offer to return due to work commitments.

Gully hoped to complete the signing of former St. Melbourne Hellas midfielder Kenny Drakeford in time for this Friday's Buffalo Cup

clash with Melbourne Croatia. Drakeford, a permanent resident of New Zealand, is here on a working visa.

There's a hitch, however. Believe it or not, Hellas wants Gully to give it money for Drakeford, even though he hasn't played for Hellas for over seven years. In that time, he's been cleared to play in England, Sweden and New Zealand. Who's Hellas trying to kid?

Gully middlefielders Willie Vassallo, David Smallman and Jim Williams have left the club. Vassallo is player-coach of Victorian Provisional League club North Sunshine United, Smallman was expected to join State League club Western Suburbs for \$2,000 as we went to press, while Williams remains transfer listed at the incredibly reasonable fee of \$2,500.

Kevin Lloyd, who played with Gully last year, has returned to Brunswick Juventus and Gully's efforts to snare Andy Humble and Ian Rodhouse from Box Hill failed. Humble joined Greydon and Rodhouse joining Macedonia.

On the plus side, Gully middlefielder Les Carter, who was out of action last year due to knee reconstruction surgery, is back to peak fitness and defender Joe Vizzini was signed for \$2,500 from Broadmeadows last week.

It's hard to piece together Gully's first team squad at this stage, but let's try:

GOALKEEPERS: Lou Denys, Charlie Sant.

DEFENDERS: Hogben, Fraser, Jim Murray, Steve Smallman, Vizzini, Robert Krajacic.

MIDFIELDERS: Smart, Carter, Flavell, Nixon, Drakeford, Campbell.

FORWARDS: Cumming, Lucchesi, Paul Lewis.

— CRAIG MACKENZIE

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McNally, Flounders stay, Pivetta next target for Matic

Adelaide City Juventus agreed terms with goalkeeper Willie McNally and stopper Neville Flounders last week but has spent just \$2,500 in transfers to date, a far cry from the spending spree indulged in by neighboring West Adelaide Hellas.

Juventus spent \$2,000 on defender Gary Higgins from Salisbury United and \$500 on attacking midfielder Paul Wilde from Azzurri, and is negotiating for goalkeeper Lou Pivetta from Campbelltown. However, Wilde is in plaster, a legacy of his flirtation with indoor soccer. He has a chipped bone in an ankle and new Juventus coach Zoran Matic is not a happy man.

Matic also is unhappy about his players having maximum transfer fee clauses in their contracts but that problem has been resolved. Matic scrapped them.

Another victim of indoor soccer is young forward Fortu Costanzo, who is recovering from a cartilage operation.

Juventus still is concentrating on lowering its debt so it won't be dipping into the

transfer market in a big way. Matic has set his sights on a couple of local State League players and will try and sign them over the next fortnight.

Former Juventus star and coach John Perin is the club's director of coaching.

Matic's first team squad is:

GOALKEEPERS: McNally, Steve Nicos.

DEFENDERS: Ernie Luongo, Alex Tobin, Flounders, Buggy Nyksohus, Higgins.

MIDFIELDERS: Serge Melia, Charlie Villani, Brian Northcote, Adrian Santrac, Angelo Vidmar.

FORWARDS: Joe Mullen, Steve Maxwell, Costanzo, Colin Miller.

• Juve's best line up appears to be: McNally — Higgins, Flounders, Nyksohus, Tobin — Villani, Melia, Northcote, Santrac — Mullen, Maxwell.

SENSATIONAL SCHOOLBOYS IN DEMAND!



Ernie Tapal

Keepers quit Monaro

Inter Monaro has had to replace goalkeepers Mike Hocking and Steve Hoszowski, and has welcomed back winger Victor Trajanovski.

Trajanovski, who played for Inter Monaro in 1979 and 1980, has spent the past few seasons back home in Macedonia. He will replace winger Chris Thannidis, who left before the second-last game of 1985, and has been training with Canterbury Marrieville.

Thannidis is available for a \$3000 transfer fee. Tony Brennan for \$6000 and John Santolin for \$4000.

Brennan, formerly of Canberra, and Brisbane Lions, has told the club he may be returning to Brisbane. Santolin, captain in 1984, wants to step down to the local ACT competition and may join Croatia Deakin.

But Inter Monaro's greatest disappointment has been the departure of goalkeepers Hocking and Hoszowski.

Maccarone has signed Ross Pinto on a one-year loan from Yugal to replace Hocking. Nick Antonopoulos has returned after a long absence to compete with Pinto. Antonopoulos was the youngest goalkeeper in the league while with Inter Monaro in 1979 but his career was interrupted by a knee injury.

Mike Tullawa, who was on loan from West Woden Juventus last year, has joined permanently, for a \$2000 transfer fee, and will be the regular right back, with former Soccerro Harry Williams playing at left back.

Williams is one of three members of the 1974 World Cup team still playing soccer. The others are Peter Orlerton, player-coach of Crocydon, and Jimmy Rooney, who plays for Prahran Celtic in Melbourne.

Inter-Monaro's star imports, bought late last year, are striker Steve Winn who switched from Heidelberg-Alexander for \$12,000 and right midfielder Ian Witherspoon, a small but tough and energetic player who came from Penrith for \$2500.

Inter Monaro's basic squad is:

GOALKEEPERS: Ross Pinto, Nick Antonopoulos.

DEFENDERS: Mike Tullawa, Ricky Budini, Angelo Titilas, Harry Williams, John Walsh, Phil Walsh.

MIDFIELDERS: Ian Witherspoon, Billy Willox, Attilio Carbone, Carlo Ambrosino, Angelo Ambrosino.

FORWARDS: Victor Trajanovski, Steve Winn, Sebastian Giampolo.

— LAURIE SCHWAB

there is very high and it's incredibly competitive," said Tapal.

"Yet we matched every team in terms of skill. It was certain physical aspects of the game that let us down just a bit."

Strangely, it seems that our schoolboys' strength is our national youth team's failing.

Here are all the schoolboys' results:

- V. Kent 1-1.
- V. Middlesex 3-0.
- V. Scotland 2-1.
- V. Greater Manchester 2-1.
- V. Merseyside 3-1.
- V. West Midlands 4-1.
- V. England 6-1.



Drago Sekularac (centre) flanked by the "father" of Footscray J.U.S.T., Tony Kovac (left) and current J.U.S.T. president Tony Amon.

Sekularac, three star players here soon

Footscray J.U.S.T.'s new coach, the great Dragoslav Sekularac, is on his way!

And he's signed up three players in Europe.

They are Milos Stosic, as striker and former youth international from Red Star Belgrade, goalkeeper Nikitovic from Napredak and midfielder Vukcevic who played for Buducnost in Yugoslavia, and had a brief spell in the U.S. as well.

Sekularac, of course, is one of the all-time greats of Yugoslav soccer.

He played in many championship and Cup-winning Red Star teams, and in the 1958 and 1962 World Cups, as well as the 1956 Olympic Games final against the USSR in Melbourne.

J.U.S.T. signed him up as coach while he was visiting Australia late last year. He was to have arrived back early this month, but immigration red tape has delayed him until next week.

Meanwhile, J.U.S.T. has signed deadly goalscorer Ossi Latif from Sunshine-George Cross for \$15,000. Latif, who scored about 20 goals last year, previously played for Melbourne Croatia and Keilor-Austria. He originally was a J.U.S.T. junior.

Danny Ward, a talented striker from Melbourne Hungaria, and Ljube Petrovski from Preston-Makedonia, also were training with J.U.S.T., while Joe Piccone also was trying to rejoin his former club, having played for Maroon and Albion Turk Gucu since leaving "Plavi" — the Blues.

Kyri Kyriakoulas has quit because he does not have the time to devote to soccer now that he has bought a restaurant in Brighton, and Don Macleod and Joe Carroll have transferred to Blacktown.

That leaves J.U.S.T. desperately short of centre backs.

LAURIE SCHWAB

The Australian schoolboys returned last week from their whirlwind tour of the U.K. with English clubs queuing up for their signatures and the reputation of schoolboy soccer in Australia firmly established.

Wolverhampton Wanderers wanted six members of the 18-strong Australian schoolboy side

Todoric, Bonacic boost Croatia

Davor Todoric, the leading scorer in the Yugoslav Second Division in the 1984-85 season, is Melbourne Croatia's star signing for 1986.

Todoric's clearance from Zadar has come through. He's a 26-year-old left sided attacking player, formerly on the books of NK Zagreb and as we went to press he was expected to arrive in Australia.

Luke Bonacic, who guested with Footscray J.U.S.T. last year, is Croatia's other big signing so far. While adding a lot of class to Croatia's midfield, he also will be assisting coach Miron Bieleberg.

Croatia is having trouble getting sweeper Jozo Antolovic and forward Ante Ljubic back into Australia. Even though An-

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

tolovic is a permanent resident, he's unlikely to consider returning until the birth of his child expected in March. Ljubic, a visa player, went back to Yugoslavia before Christmas for family reasons and now is waiting to be cleared by the authorities there before returning to Australia.

Croatia last week completed the signings of defender Tony Redmond from Brisbane Lions (for \$2,500), midfielder John Gusic from South Okleigh (for \$2,000) and forward Goran Runje from Mornington (free).

However, Greg House seems certain to leave after just one season. Crocydon and Springvale City of the Victorian State League want to sign the lively striker.

Giant defender Aki Kotzamilchalis, prevented by injury from making any league appearances from Croatia last year, is looking forward to a big season and Croatia officials have high hopes for youngster Mark Talajic, a product of their juniors. He was the leading scorer in Croatia's youth team last season.

Goalkeeper Lemna Kibret and midfielder Ernie Tapal, who had to serve a one year suspension imposed by F.I.F.A., have since gained amateur status and have been training with Croatia, however it's uncertain whether or not they'll sign.

Croatia's first team squad is:

GOALKEEPERS: Miroko Runje, Zeljko Govic.

DEFENDERS: Drago Deankovic, George Hannah, Davie McIntosh, Redmond, Kotzamilchalis, Tony Curcio.

MIDFIELDERS: Victor Cristaldi, Jim Campbell, Sullivan Curovic, Bonacic, Josip Biskic, Steve Gojevic.

FORWARDS: Robert Markovic, Gary Ward, Todoric.

Croatia's strongest line-up could read: Runje — Deankovic, Curcio, McIntosh, Hannah — Biskic, Campbell, Bonacic, Gojevic — Ward, Todoric.

RICHARDSON STRANDED

George Cross completed the signings of stopper Shaun Parton from Melbourne Croatia and goalkeeper Sean Keogh from Brunswick Juventus last week but still was cutting a swathe through immigration red tape in a bid to get stranded stopper Steve Richardson back into Australia.

Parton was signed for a \$3000 transfer fee, a figure arrived at last year when he appealed against the fee put on his head by Croatia. Keogh's transfer fee was \$5000.

Richardson went to Scotland on holiday late last year, little expecting that he would be confronted with so much trouble in returning. He reportedly failed to get a re-entry visa before leaving but another story doing the rounds is that he left

on the understanding that everything was fixed up.

Coach John Gardiner wants Richardson in his first-team squad but if club officials fail to get the tall defender back into the country, the club will have two visa vacancies and both are likely to be filled.

Gardiner's priority at present, pending a clarification of the Richardson issue, is to sign a forward from the U.K.

Gerry Bennett is transfer listed at \$5000; Mick Gorlan at \$4000 and Steve Scerri at \$4000.

Bobby Toal has returned from his loan stint with Broadmeadows and has been working hard at training to try and cement a first team spot.

Ossi Latif has joined Footscray J.U.S.T. for \$15,000. The first instalment of his transfer fee — \$7000 — was paid to George Cross last week, enabling the club to give Croatia the \$9000 up front it wanted for Parton.

Gardiner's first team squad at present is:

GOALKEEPERS: Keogh, Lou Kainer.

DEFENDERS: John Campbell, Parton, Tyrone James, Chris Taylor, Steve Chetkuli.

MIDFIELDERS: Jeff Faulkner, Don MacLaren, Roger Bala.

FORWARDS: Toal, Carl Gilder, Noel Mitten, Mark Lennon.

NSL Chairman Sam Pappas expressed his delight at the renewal by Olympic Airways of the sponsorship of the 1986 season for a figure of \$200,000.

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Battle over Stevenson

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

Sydney Olympic supporter Manuel Kambois has offered the club \$50,000 as an incentive to win the 1986 Northern Division championship and the outcome of the clear-ance wrangle between Olympic and Heidelberg Alexander over striker Stuart Stevenson could play a decisive part in Olympic's title fortunes.

Olympic president Tom Doumanis met with NSL executive manager Stefan Kamnits late last week in a bid to solve the Stevenson affair. Stevenson, who joined Heidelberg two years ago, has been training with Olympic which has been thwarted in its attempts to gain a transfer for him.

"As far as we (Olympic) are concerned, Heidelberg is in breach of both NSL and immigration department rule. Stevenson is a visa player and Heidelberg wants \$15,000 for him when it only is entitled to ask for expenses," said Doumanis.

"Stevenson's visa expired in December but we (Olympic) are unable to renew it until the NSL rules on the affair."

As we went to press, Olympic expected to lose two of last year's first-teamers, Graham



Stuart Stevenson

and Panathinaikos. He's 30 and he'll be joining Burke in the midfield. Coody, a former Olympic player, returns from a stint with English club Wolverhampton Wanderers early next month.

Peter Katholos, of course, is playing with Larissa in Greece.

Olympic hopes to release big news about sponsorship in the next fortnight. Meanwhile the club expects to make about \$80,000 from a walkathon it will hold on March 9. Greek ultra marathon star Yiannis Kouras will be flown to Sydney to take part in the walkathon and a host of local TV and radio personalities also will participate.

Manfred Schaefer has retained the coaching post. His first team squad is:

GOALKEEPERS: Gary Meier, Bill London.

DEFENDERS: Martyn Rogers, Coody, Andy Stankovic, Alex Lambropoulos, Tony Dakin.

MIDFIELDERS: Peter Raskopoulos, Burke, Estavillo, Stuart Johnston.

FORWARDS: Chris Kalantzis, Marshall Soper, Stevenson, Nick Theodorakopoulos, Brandt.

The club already has signed Richard Burke, Vicente Estavillo and Mike Coody and is about to complete the signing of Simon Brandt from Newcastle Rosebud.

Burke, a 23-year-old midfielder, is a former Everton and Washington Diplomats player. Estavillo, who was brought to Australia last year to play with Auburn in the NSW State League, has impressive credentials. He played for the Uruguayan national team, Pen-

arol and Panathinaikos. He's 30 and he'll be joining Burke in the midfield. Coody, a former Olympic player, returns from a stint with English club Wolverhampton Wanderers early next month.

Peter Katholos, of course, is playing with Larissa in Greece.

Kapetanovic awaits Brazilians' return

NSW State League champion Canterbury Marrieville Olympic, will find survival in the NSL difficult indeed. Without some star players of 1985 and with few new signings, the job of competing against the likes of Sydney Olympic, Hakoah, Marconi or APIA looks even more arduous.

Dom Kapetanovic, certainly one of the most knowledgeable and astute coaches in the NSL, takes the unenviable task of guiding Canterbury through 1986.

He was intent on acquiring the services of Ljubo Gokovic as his assistant but that is yet to be confirmed.

Although it has a plush social club at Brighton Le Sands and a few shrewd businessmen to help, Canterbury is still struggling to find a sponsor generous enough to give the club the



Dom Kapetanovic

financial strength to compete with the heaviest of the NSL. Goalkeeper Chris Hummel has eased some of Canterbury's problems with a late decision to remain with the club.

Ian Barker, one of the best goalkeepers in the State, also joins from Manly Warringah for \$3000.

John Karaspyros remains at fullback, Paul Kirwan drops

from the left wing to take over the left fullback position, while Spiro Hantzis, the hard-tackling fullback, moves to sweep-er. John Radman is the most likely candidate to remain at centre back.

Carlos Ortega and Ricky Hormazabal, the Chilean combination, as well as Eddy Pena, have not been training and are unlikely starters for 1986. Marcos Silva and Nello Borges, the Brazilian combination, are still away, with Borges holidaying in Brazil and certain not to return before the end of February.

John Anagnostopoulos is in dispute with the club and is also on the outer, which leaves us with a midfield combination of Dennis Fieranis, Tony Antonopoulos, Kalogeras and Zeljko Mirkovic.

Johnny Petas and Mario Phillipou take over the forward line.

This certainly looks like the side which finished in the

middle of the State League table under Johnny Xipollas and hardly a team expected to cause much concern.

However, Damian Fokas, the club's secretary insists that the season is a long way away.

"We hope to sign a couple of strong players from abroad as well as some of the locals who have impressed us so far," said Mr. Fokas.

George Akoutas and David Watt (ex Warrigah Narrabeen) could join Canterbury.

Kapetanovic, the ever hopeful and enthusiastic worker, believes in Canterbury's youth brigade.

"We might prove a few people wrong. To succeed with a side such as ours would be an achievement and we aim to do that. Patience, hard work and club spirit are the essential ingredients at present. We hope that a few more quality players could add the rest," he said.

— ALEX VESIC

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CEDO CIRKOVIC

Hermiston wants Cerneka, Hogg, Wright and muscle

By
RICKY
ROSSO

After four years at the bottom of the table, this season looms as a make or break year for Brisbane City — and its coach Jim Hermiston.

With a place in the future National League format at stake, the club knows it can no longer be satisfied with just going through the motions. Success is imperative if City, one of the foundation members, is to play a part in the league's future.

And for genial coach Jim Hermiston, this season looms as one which also could decide his future. The former NSL Player of the Year is now starting his third stint at the club.

His coaching career at Spencer Park has been dogged by disappointments and more significantly, interference. The Italian's "all-or-nothing" syndrome has never let Hermiston settle, never given him time to implement the youth scheme he saw work so well at Lions during his playing days.

"This is a do-or-die season for me, I've got something to prove. If it doesn't work then I will have to think about things. But I am going to give it everything this year. I am keen and looking forward to it, and I am getting the same feeling back from the players," Hermiston said.



● Alan Reis

Surprisingly, for a club desperate for a bold showing, City has not been quick to flash the cash, as have some of its Melbourne and Adelaide rivals, who are just as threatened. But these are tough financial times for the club.

The magnificent ground complex the club built four years ago has been a constant drain. But there is light at the end of the tunnel. Following a major administrative reshuffle at the end of last season, which saw John Clavarella and his supporters ousted and replaced by former club administrators, including Sam Pappalardo and Guido Canale, the loan has been paid out. All money coming into the club

from this year one, can be directed to other areas. And it would not surprise to see City buy later in the year when the coffers start to grow.

But the club has not been totally inactive in the transfer market.

The club believes it has unearthed a natural goalscorer in League of Ireland striker Kieran Cooper. Cooper is leading goalscorer with his First Division club Brae Wanderers, who are leading the competition. The Irishman has turned down approaches from English clubs to come to Australia to be reunited with his family.

The other overseas signing City has high hopes for is former Newcastle and Berwick player Phil Whyte, a Scot who comes to the club via a stint in New Zealand. Whyte is a tough burly striker in the mould of Bobby Campbell, the Geordie who helped bring considerable success to City in the early days of the NSL, then returned to Bradford to become the club's leading scorer.

The City also is negotiating with Newcastle United (Australia) youngster Dean Miliotic, who now lives on the Gold Coast and Bobby Cox, a Newcastle goalkeeper who trailed with the club early last year.

Hermiston is very keen to sign Canberra's Steve Hogg, his former team-mate at Lions. Hogg has been training at City since the start of the season and looms as the driving force lacking in the City midfield for so many years.

Talk still abounds about the return of former captain and defender Frank Liddell, but two years ago but has always been retained by the club. A



● Roberto Lettieri

decision will be made soon, but a local youngster is looming as a longer-term replacement for last year's stopper Billy Wilkinson, who is now Hermiston's coaching assistant.

He is Greek boy Mick Cerneka, who came close to being snapped up by Sydney Olympic last season. Cerneka played in front of Hermiston in last year's Brisbane team, but negotiations repeatedly broke down last year when Hermiston tried to get the youngster to Spencer Park.

But the door seemingly has been opened now with former Young Socceroo Stephen Glooker's indication that he wants to go to Cerneka's club, Premier League side Olympic United. A player swap is looming.

City also has welcomed Scotsman George Caird, a solid utility player who had a season with City two years ago before returning to Scotland. But any signing of the overseas players trialling at Spencer Park will be dictated by the number of visa places City can make vacant.

Argentine Roberto Lettieri, who with Liddell are the club's current visa players, is back training again after limited first-team appearances last season. Lettieri, who has all the skills if not the drive, has shown renewed enthusiasm this year and Hermiston is quietly predicting big things might be produced by the former Porto Alegre player this season.

With the exception of former captain Frank Pimblett, who is holidaying in Townsville, all of last year's squad has returned. And Hermiston is busily attempting to attract youngsters to the club. Already he has Australian under-16 rep. Alfie Catalano and his Queensland youth team team-mates James Hermiston and Tony Bukkos training along with young Townsville goalkeeper Graham Ross.

The only player seemingly not settled is State team striker Alan Reis, who is rumored to be eyeing a move across the river to Lions. Hermiston has long wanted former Young Socceroo Danny Wright in his side and Reis may provide bargaining power.

So at this stage a possible City team to start the year could be: Kim Wishart — Glen Archer, Mike Milioticovic, Mick Cerneka, Garry Bromfield — Luciano Fabrizio, Steve Hogg, Bobby Hamilton — Kieran Cooper, Phil Whyte, Alan Reis.

Irrespective of the side on the park, Hermiston has promoted a new attitude from his players. The emphasis is on physical and mental toughness.



● Roberto Girdali (left) and Jock Morlando — joined Wollongong from Fairy Meadow.

Uruguay star joins 'Gong

By LAURIE SCHWAB

Warwick Young, Jock Morlando, Roberto Girdali and coach John Fleming helped take Fairy Meadow to second place in the NSW State League last year. They failed to gain promotion, but have made up for their disappointment by switching to Wollongong in the National League.

Despite the loss of Alex Bundalo and Silvio Hristovski to APIA, Wollongong is confident of doing better than it did in 1985 when it finished third in the Northern Division.

Its star recruit will be Saul Rivera, 36, an attacking midfielder who played for the Uruguay national team, and for Uruguayan clubs Liverpool and Penarol.

Wollongong secretary John Vilestria said the club persuaded him to sign after watching him in the NSW All Nations Cup in Sydney late last year. He was invited to play in the competition, along with Peru's all-time great Hector Chumpitiz and Chile's Carlos Caszely.

Rivero will provide the on-field leadership which Wollongong lost when Dez Marton decided to switch to Yugal as player-coach.

Similarly, Willie Murray, the former Sydney Hakoah star, will fill a gap left by Wollongong captain Peter Willis who has switched to Blacktown for \$6000.

Murray, a skilful, goalscoring winger or midfielder, left Hakoah to play first with Manly and then with Availa. He joined Wollongong on a free transfer.

Another new player at Wollongong is midfielder Brian Cockley, a former Swansea apprentice who played non-league in Wales last year and is now studying at Wollongong University. The 22-year-old was in Australia a few years ago, trying out with Hakoah.

Financially, Wollongong has a strong foundation. BHP has come in with a three-year, \$90,000 sponsorship; the Queensland-based Kern Cor-

poration which develops shopping centres, will provide \$50,000 over two years and the Fraternity bowling club will chip in \$10,000 for one year.

Wollongong received \$10,000 from APIA for Bundalo and Hristovski. Bundalo commanded about \$9000 of that total.

The club remains on the lookout for a striker. Among those under consideration is Brad Smith, a Queenslander recommended by the Queensland Coaching Director, Richard Evans. John Brown from the Wollongong youth team is making a bid for inclusion in the seniors.

The three Fairy Meadow players were signed for transfer fees totalling only \$3000 — \$1500 for goalkeeper Young, \$500 for striker-turned-defender Morlando and \$1000 for striker Girdali.

The money for Young went to St George Budapest, which had loaned him to Fairy Meadow for the 1985 season. Young is, however, a South Coast product, having started his career at Corrimal Rangers. He is the brother of Craig Young, the Australian Rugby League representative.

Morlando played as a striker with Wollongong before switching to Fairy Meadow where Fleming transformed him into a successful left back, and Girdali who was the pin-up boy of Fairy Meadow's Italian fans, can play as an attacking midfielder as well as striker.

Wollongong's strongest line-up would appear to be: Young — Green, Dickson, Vilestria (capt), Morlando — Caffney, Cockley, Rivero, Murray — Brednik, Godzik.

Youth power, U.K. star for Lions

A pre-season tour, which will see Brisbane Lions travel to Darwin and then down the Queensland coast from Cairns, is hoped to provide the club with a strong start to this year's NSL season.

Plans for the tour have snowballed since Lions officials first made tentative approaches to northern clubs and federations for pre-season trials and the trip now looms as one of the toughest pre-season conditioners ever taken on by an NSL side.

Lions will play eight games in about 10 days in the fortnight prior to the first fixture. The club will be taking away its strongest possible squad and already competition for places on the tour is intense at pre-season training.

"It's not a holiday, nor a string of friendly matches. We will be taking away the best 16 or so players from the club and they all will be fighting for the 11 places in the NSL team," coach Gordon Arrowsmith said.

Arrowsmith, who took charge of Lions nearly two years ago, has high hopes for his young side, which he believes has matured and is on the threshold of fulfilling the potential it has shown in the past two years.

Indeed, Lions have been thereabouts for the past two seasons, fifth in 1984 and sixth last year. And there have been



● Jason Polak

The only other loss at Lions is fringe player Tony Redmond, who was sold to Melbourne Croatia for \$2200 — the same fee for which Lions bought him from Canberra 12 months ago.

On the positive side, Lions' recruiting campaign has been vast and successful. The club looks like making only one overseas signing, but last season's high achiever will be a class player. Lions have been handling the deal with all the secrecy of Australia II's keel, but it is known the player is a leading seamer with a leading club in one of the British competitions.

Arrowsmith was successful in luring three highly credentialed youngsters to Richlands from Townsville and Ayr. They include the North Queensland Player of the Year last season, Mike Kelly — a striker with lightning speed. With him has come former Townsville State League player Bill Armit, a towering stopper, who looms as a possible replacement for Hunter. The other country signing is the promising Wayne Oliveri from Ayr, who, although a little green for the NSL, is showing a lot of determination and drive.

Lions also have made a raid on Bruce Stowell's national championship winning Queensland under 18 side and at one stage during pre-season training had no less than six of the team at Richlands. Two of those were AIS players Jason Polak and John Koch, but the club looks set to sign Jarrod Austin, Lindsay Dines and Nick Meredith.

Dines and Austin will be the catches of the season if the club can secure both.

Another player who has

turned up at Lions' pre-season training is an old face at Richlands — speedy winger Craig Low, who in recent years has played in midfield at Olympic United. Low is last season's Rothmans Medal winner and is keen to try his hand at National League again. A very low maximum in his contract makes him an attractive proposition.

While the new young talent has added plenty of depth to the club's squad, the first team remains relatively unchanged, providing of course the club does not lose Danny Wright to Brisbane City, or St George which also was chasing him.

The club is awaiting the return from overseas of talented youngsters, David Hunter and Richard Bassingthwaite. Hunter, the younger brother of



● Craig Low

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Contact

PHIL DIAMATARIS

on 605 4259

Last season for Tony Henderson?

Tony Henderson has seen it all: he has been part and parcel of the National League ever since it started in 1977. He saw the original PSL expand, then split into two divisions; he saw the enforced Americanisation of the club names and the more recent, gradual return to normalcy, the various changes and counterchanges to the points rules; he has seen the lot.

And now, with undiminished enthusiasm, he is facing his 10th season in the League. He is a doyen among players, as are Jim Cant, Murray Barnes, Steve O'Connor, Joe Watson and a few others.

What these have in common is that they were all present at the birth of the NSL and are still there today. Maybe, at the end of the 1986 season, the NSL should honor those few players who have completed 10 seasons. But I am sure our leaders won't even think of it.

Henderson was more than a mere name in the early annals of the NSL. In the very first season, starting for the newly-created Canberra, he caught the eye of the fans with his "all-court" game, covering the entire field in his characteristic long strides.

Canberra in 1977 finished second-last but was still a success story. The amazing thing was that the club that existed at all. Former national hero John Warren helped create a new club and team with players like Alison, Cant, Hogg, Moulis, Stark, Tilsed, the two Stodarts and Henderson in a city where for decades only political football had been in vogue.

The very fact that Canberra City still exists, although under vastly changed conditions, is a tribute to the pioneers of 1977.

Tony spent two seasons with Canberra and then switched to Marconi; he is still there, after seven seasons, hoping to finish his NSL career with the club possibly at the end of the current campaign.

"With the start of every season it's more and more difficult to rekindle your energy and enthusiasm to face another year," says Henderson, 32.

"At the end of the 1985 year I felt so exhausted I was certain I'd retire from the NSL. But during the summer I felt my strength and my enthusiasm return, so here I go again. But not for ever. Sure, I will play soccer even after 1986 but perhaps in a State League outfit, where the training demands are less."

Henderson who was once a successful car salesman for Nissan — I bought mine from him, too — now drives his own 8-ton truck ("I carry anything and everything") for a living. Some days he is up at 4am and gets to the Marconi training after a long country trip at 7pm. He's half dead getting home at 10pm or so — a calvary even for a single man, let alone a married one.

Tony Henderson was born in Newcastle (England) and spent some four seasons with Rotherham United as a professional in the 2nd and 3rd divisions before going to South Africa for a short stint. It was from there that John Warren



● Tony Henderson — former Soccer captain.



Andrew Dettre

fished him out for his Canberra team, along with goalie Ron Tilsed. Under Rudi Gutendorf and then Les Scheinflug, Tony Henderson became a regular member of the national team; at one stage he was even the captain, much to the horror of 'purists' (like me) who felt and still feel that this honor should always belong to native-born players.

Tony was, in the late 1970s and early 1980s, probably the most complete soccer player in the NSL. At his best he was poetry in motion as he went gliding and slaloming through the field, like a blond greyhound in an upright position.

Of his many fine matches for Australia few will ever forget his 1981 game against Taiwan (3-2) where, with arrogant ease, he dribbled his way some 70 metres, beating half the Taiwanese team — some twice — before scoring a classic goal, the type old-timers often talk about when drooling over the exploits of characters of yesteryear such as Sindelar, Cseh, Puskas and Charlie Cook.

His last game for Australia 'A' was in 1983 in Singapore. The following year he was relegated to the B-team against a host of visiting clubs like Rangers and Nottingham Forest. By then, the Soccercoos were under a new coach, Frank Arok.

To this day Henderson doesn't know why he was

dropped. Was it his age, his style or his character that displeased the new boss? Being a non-smoker, non-drinker and a pleasant, intelligent young man, one can only assume that Arok simply preferred others. "I couldn't ask him why I wasn't in his team," Tony says. "He owed me no explanation. It would have been too vain for me to speak up. Someone allegedly asked him on my behalf and was told that I didn't suit the new style. I guess that was it: there is nothing you can do about that."

Despite his obvious disappointment at the time, Henderson has remained a faithful fan of the national team: he followed its every step during the 1985 campaign to the bitter end.

"I was really proud of them, the way they won their group. It was a very disciplined team, showing all the benefits of having been together for two years. "Even against the Scots we did have our chances; if only Kosmina and Ozarkov had scored, we could have created a sensation. But even so, the team can hold its head very high."

Henderson says his last remaining ambition is to win the 1986 NSL title with Marconi: first past the post, the blue ribbon championship, "the one that really counts, not the play-offs and other such things," he says. "I owe this to the Marconi club. And I think we have the team to do it, too."

Marconi wants Zinni

Andrew Zinni of Brunswick Juventus is on Marconi's shopping list.

Marconi coach Les Scheinflug is looking for a top-flight winger to complete his first team squad.

Marconi gave Scheinflug \$40,000 with which to buy new players and he used up \$25,000 when he signed Robbie Wheatley from Blacktown.

Mark Jankovics, Marconi's all-time top scorer in the NSL, is on the transfer list but is expected to come to terms with the club shortly. Peter Sharpe has retired; Rene Licata is back after playing with Penrith on loan and Inter Monaro has signed Ricky Budali and Attila Carbone, who both played on loan with Inter last season.

Goalkeeper Alex McPherson has switched to Sydney City Hawks on a free transfer but Scheinflug has snapped up youth Soccercoo custodian John Jones on a free from the Institute of Sport.

Scheinflug's first team squad at present is: GOALKEEPERS: Jones, Bruce James. DEFENDERS: Paul Carter, Wheatley, Tony Henderson, Steve Calderan, Joe Rizzotto, Les Stierrey. MIDFIELDERS: Ian Gray, Craig Mason, Peter Tredeinick, Martin Driscoll. FORWARDS: JANKOVICS, Red Brown, David Lowe, Geoff Gunning, Licata.

CRAIG MacKENZIE

Mitch set to strike it rich

David Mitchell (pictured) is on the verge of joining Jim Patikas in the big-money league.

While Patikas stands to earn \$200,000 with AEK Athens, Mitchell is back in Adelaide after signing a "lucrative" contract with West German First Division club Eintracht Frankfurt.

Mitchell has been granted rest and recreation leave by his new club while he recovers from a groin operation he had in Frankfurt last month.

Once he has fully recovered, Mitchell will return to West Germany to fulfil an 18-month contract.

Eintracht will pay Mitchell \$800 for every point the team collects this season, \$1200 for each away win, a share of home gates and also a basic wage.

The deal began from the time Mitchell signed and is not dependent upon when he starts playing.

"I'll return to Germany in April and at the end of the season over there, I'll come back to Adelaide before completing my contract with them," Mitchell said.

Mitchell was at Hindmarsh Stadium for the opening Ampol Cup games last week.

— ALLAN CRISP



Margaritis on African trail

By LAURIE SCHWAB

South Melbourne Hellas is making enquiries about Frank McGrellis, a strong attacking midfielder playing in South Africa. He is well known to Hellas stars Charlie Egan and Richard Miranda, who recommended him highly.

Heidelberg-Alexander also wants him.

The player currently is holidaying. Coach John Margaritis said Hellas was waiting to contact him.

"He has to be very special if we are to sign him," Margaritis said, "because whoever joins us will have to be better than the players we already have."

McGrellis played in England for Coventry Huddersfield and Herford and now is at Wits University, where Richard Miranda used to play.

Margaritis also is on the lookout for a second-string goalkeeper to understudy Peter Laumets, and is extremely impressed by the younger players in the Hellas squad.

"It is a mystery to me that these younger players — particularly Viado Bozinovski — did not participate more often last season," Margaritis said. He also has a high opinion of Peter Vardaxis, who can play in virtually any position.

However, Chris Andriotti, a young striker signed from Clifton Hill, has been unable to get sufficient time off work to train regularly.

In its first test under Margaritis, who has returned "home" from Juventus, Hellas beat West Adelaide Hellas 3-2



● Doug Brown

in a testimonial match for Graham Honeyman, in Adelaide.

Charlie Egan scored twice and Doug Brown once, while West Adelaide's goals were scored by Lou Hristodoulou and Gary Price.

Brown played particularly well, after being on the verge of being dumped late last year, by the previous coach, Len McKendry. Margaritis took him off the transfer list and announced to one and all that Brown, as one of the deadliest strikers in Australia, was indispensable.

A significant change in the team that played in Adelaide was Carl Halford's move from the middle of midfield to the right hand side. Miranda and Bozinovski took the central positions, with Ken Murphy on the left. It was McKendry's insistence on having Halford in

the middle that forced key players like Gary McDowell and Alan Davidson to play wide, where they were out of the action for too long.

McDowell has been given the sweeper's position he has wanted all along, since John Yzendoorn has told Hellas he wants to follow McKendry to Juventus.

Oscar Crino is the other player missing from the Hellas line-up. He has joined Anorthosis of Cyprus on a four-month, \$40,000 contract which he hopes will be a stepping stone to a bigger club in Europe.

Ironically, it is McKendry — according to Hellas president Jim Diamataris — who engineered Miranda's switch from Juventus to Hellas, while McKendry was still the Hellas coach.

Hellas wanted to sign Mike Petersen who however, signed a new contract with Juventus. Eddie Efthimiou, Margaritis's assistant at Juventus last year, is Hellas's new youth coach.

The Hellas squad so far is: GOALKEEPER: Peter Laumets.

DEFENDERS: Bobby Russell, Gary McDowell, Steve Blair, Aggie Postecoglou, George Mihos, Manny Anexakis, Socrates Nicolaidis.

MIDFIELDERS: Carl Halford, Richard Miranda, Viado Bozinovski, Ken Murphy, John Kanasoulis.

FORWARDS: Charlie Egan, Doug Brown, Peter Vardaxis.

Kierno may join Azzurri

Former SA Rothmans Medallist Jan Kierno is likely to play for Azzurri this season.

The little midfield general said this week he had quit as Polonia playing-coach after failing to come to terms on a new contract.

"I have had offers from four clubs, but I am considering Azzurri because they could win the championship this year," Kierno said.

— ALLAN CRISP

Graham Jennings, eh? Where does he play?

Soccerroo and Sydney Olympic left back Graham Jennings and a midfielder currently playing in Yugoslavia are Sydney Croatia's main targets for 1986.

We'd like to update you on the result, late last week, of Jennings' appeal against the \$30,000 transfer fee placed on his head by Olympic but red tape and curiously ill-in-

formed administrative staff prevent us.

I rang NSL headquarters in Sydney last Friday to be told that the Jennings matter was in the hands of the NSW Federation. So I rang the NSW Federation.

"Graham who?" asked the kindly lady on the other end of the phone.

"Graham Jennings," I said again. "Jennings, Jennings," she replied in puzzled fashion. "He plays for Sydney Olympic and he's playing for Australia too," I responded.

"Right. A Graham Jennings of Sydney Olympic. I'll find out the result of his appeal," she said.

She returned to the phone to tell me that the appeal board's decision had to be forwarded to the executive board for ratification and the executive wasn't meeting until this week.

Perhaps the executive's decision has to then be forwarded to the clerical staff who record the decision in quadruplicate, then send a copy of the decision to Jennings, Olympic, Sydney Croatia and the NSW Federation's publicity officer who then officially informs the press who in turn tell the soccer public hungry for news that Jennings...

Mind you, we had as much luck trying to prise the name of the overseas midfielder from between the lips of Croatia president Tony Basic. Croatia's biggest loss so far has of course been Jim Pat-



● Graham Jennings

kas who joined Greek giant AEK Athens late last year for a \$25,000 transfer fee.

The current first team squad, under the guidance of player-coach Vedran Rozic, is:

GOALKEEPERS: Steve Watson, Greg Woodhouse. DEFENDERS: Rozic, David Reza, Alex Kovacic, Marjan Kovacic, Tom Basic.

MIDFIELDERS: Zarko Odzakovic, Shane Clinch, Wally Savor, Emil Dragicevic. FORWARDS: Zeljko Jurin, Graham Arnold, John Caleta.

CRAIG MacKENZIE

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GROUP A

Choi was here in 1981

The remarkable aspect of South Korea's qualification was not that it became the first Asian country to gain a place in a second World Cup finals, but that it took so long doing it.

Since 1954, the date of its original appearance, South Korea has been a perpetual force of Asia, always a contender for honors in continent-wide competitions.

In Switzerland, the Koreans were defeated by Puskas' Hungary 9-0 and Turkey 7-0.

Alas, those results were typical of South Korea's performances against non-Asian opposition.

Twice, South Korea appeared in Olympics finals tournaments and its record here includes losses to Sweden 12-0 (1948) and United Arab Republic 10-0 (1964).

In Mexico, it should achieve more respectable results.

Since professionalism was introduced in 1980, Korean sides have acquired greater steel and fitness.

Three players to take particular note of in Mexico are Choi Soon Ho, Yoo Byung Ok and Lee Tae Ho.

Six footer Choi Soon Ho, who played in the 1981 World Youth Championships in Australia, is an excellent all-round striker with magnificent ball control.

Accomplished defender Yoo Byung Ok is likely to be one of the few genuine amateurs on display in Mexico. He is a student of Hanyang University.

Lee Tae Ho, an aggressive midfielder, has a powerful shot, fine dribbling ability and speed (he sprints 100 metres in under 12 seconds).

Battling "Hwarang" look good enough to upset at least one higher-rated opponent, but are unlikely to emulate their neighbours from the north of the peninsula who were the toast of 1986's tournament.



● Choi Soon Ho at Olympic Park during the 1981 World Youth Championships.



World Cup groups

GROUP A: Italy, Bulgaria, Argentina, South Korea.

GROUP B: Mexico, Belgium, Paraguay, Iraq.

GROUP C: France, Canada, USSR, Hungary.

GROUP D: Brazil, Spain, Algeria, Northern Ireland.

GROUP E: West Germany, Uruguay, Scotland, Denmark.

GROUP F: Poland, Morocco, Portugal, England.

NO HOPE BULGARIA!

Without the services of experienced goalkeeper Borislav Mikhalev and Footballer of the Year Plamen Nikolov, both suspended sine die for their parts in last season's domestic Cup Final fracas, Bulgaria will find it even more difficult to make an impact in Mexico.

A determined, workmanlike, but uninspiring combination, it seems destined to be among those merely making up the numbers and unlikely to markedly improve upon its current World Cup Finals record of four draws and eight defeats from 12 outings.

One Bulgarian to look out for though is Plamen Getov. A goalscoring midfielder, he is particularly impressive with free kicks from just outside the penalty area.

Argentine fortunes in Diego's hands

Argentina coach Carlos Bilardo, very reluctantly, included five overseas-based players in his World Cup qualifying rounds squad. Without them, the road to Mexico would, at best, have been exceedingly rocky.

The logistical and financial problems of accommodating so many exiles were immense, but now Bilardo faces even greater potential difficulties, for no fewer than seven other members of the squad have been subsequently transferred abroad.

Committed to fielding as many Argentine residents as possible, but realising that genuine talent at home now is very limited, he faces numerous sleepless nights between now and June.

Maradona, Bilardo recently stated, was the only certainty for the finals.

Should Argentina be at full strength in Mexico, its prospects are exciting.

A lot, of course, depends upon Maradona. In peak form and determined to exorcise the ghosts of 1982, he is capable of dominating any game.

Should his supporting cast include experienced, tried and true goalkeeper Waldolito Pitol, commanding central defender Daniel Passarella, elusive winger Jose Valdano, gifted linkman Juan Barbas and solid defender Nestor Clausen, then Argentina has every chance of regaining the trophy it won in 1978.

GROUP C

Blokhin reinstated

Having qualified for the finals largely by virtue of its results in home games, USSR will find the totally alien conditions of Mexico a particularly harsh handicap.

The Soviets, though, are always difficult opposition and nobody will relish playing them during the 1986 Mundial. Most critics rate the current team considerably poorer than that of 1982, which promised much but ultimately fell by the wayside.

If the side has little chance of outright success, some Soviet individuals

may enhance their reputations.

Renat Dassayev was voted best keeper in Spain and appears to deteriorate little in four years, sander Chivadze remains a fly par excellence in defence, Py Cherenkov is an ever-improving fielder and reinstated winger Blokhin is almost back to his merest best.

Having become top dogs in so other sports, it seems inevitable Soviets will, someday, also capture the world crown. However, if likely 1986 includes such a day,

A goal is Canada's goal

An old British Commonwealth nation, where soccer is a minority interest and many of the players are either migrants or sons of migrants, Canada should have the sympathy of every Australian World Cup follower.

It can be claimed that its qualification was a legacy of the now defunct North American Soccer League, for most of Canada's squad were either produced or refined by that competition.

The majority now, however, are attached to indoor soccer clubs — which

hardly provide the ideal preparation for the World Cup Finals!

Eccentric Italian-born goalkeeper Tino Lettieri is likely to be the Canadian in Mexico, while veteran Bobby Lenarduzzi (once English Third Division club Rea and Bruce Wilson (ex-New York Cosmos) also can expect much hard If they get the ball, twin striker Valentine (English-born of West of Czechoslovakia) could cause

lems, but merely to score a goal Mexico will be regarded as a achievement for the Canadians to point the ultimate possibility.

GROUP E

Germans lack

Forfeiting an unbeaten record in World Cup qualifying games (only Brazil now holds that distinction), shortly after suffering defeats in friendly internationals by USSR, England and Mexico (the latter two during an "acclimatisation expedition" to Mexico City), West Germany is not in good heart.

Still, it would be ludicrous to write off any team containing ruthlessly competent goalkeeper Toni Schumacher, the rock-solid centre back Karl Heinz Foerster; powerful and creative midfielder

Hans-Peter Briegleb, promising, aggressive striker Rudi Voller, who still is a tw but enigmatic. If anything, genius in midfield na's Bernd Sch rift between a appears unbr

Enzo Fra Uruguay

Uruguay's problems are similar to those of neighboring Argentina.

Most of her leading players are att to foreign clubs and many obstacle have to be overcome if their release is gained in adequate time for World preparation.

As South American Champions, Uruguay automatically be among the favorites to World Cup decided in Latin America and key players can be mustered, she must be excellent chance of a third success to add to of 1930 and 1950.

Most of the Uruguayan stars are little outside of South America and one of the intriguing aspects of the tournament will be introduction to a world audience.

Particularly compelling will be the performance of 1984 South American Footballer of the Year Enzo Francescoli, a divinely gifted scoring midfielder.

Other potential Uruguayan world-beat goalkeeper Rodolfo Rodriguez, who is appearing an 100th international appearance; central defender Hugo De Leon; attacking back Victor Diogo and cultured defender Pareira.

Such is the output of talent in Uruguay that outstanding players, as yet totally unknown to the country, easily could emerge between June.



● Hans-Peter Briegleb (West Germany)

GROUP B

Young Scifo and 1982 veterans

Belgium had to overcome Holland in a play-off tie to qualify for the finals.

Belgium's team has changed remarkably little in four years. The key players of 1982 will be the key players of 1986, with lively young linkman Enzo Scifo giving a slightly diverse dimension.

There is little reason to believe that anything will be drastically different for them this time around — being good enough to threaten any team on a good day, but having insufficient of them to be a contender for the crown.

Survivors from Spain include that dependable goalkeeper Jean-Marie Pfaff; solid, bearded defender Eric Gerets (quickly reinstated to the team upon the elapse of his suspension for bribery offences); elusive midfielder Frankie van der Elst and classy defender Michel Renquin. All are past their 30th birthdays.

Also involved in a second Mundial will be reliable striker Erwin Vanderbergh and swashbuckling midfielder Jan Ceulemans. They could easily reach the quarter finals, but further progress would be a major surprise.



● Frankie Vercauteren (left) and Walter Meuwens of Belgium

Quarter-final for Paraguay?

Paraguay's qualification for its first World Cup Finals since 1958 surprised everyone, not least of all the Paraguayans!

Only one member of the team has the remotest claim to fame outside his own country — Julio Cesar Romero, the midfield ace, who now is attached to Fluminense (Brazil) and was once with New York Cosmos.

Romero was in brilliant form throughout the qualifying series play offs, as were lesser heroes Roberto Fernandez, an acrobatic goalkeeper, and Rogelio Delgado, the steady defender who recently joined Vasco da Gama (Brazil).

Romero and Fernandez, plus rugged defenders Juan Torres and Isidoro Aquino, are survivors from the team which sensationally and spectacularly won the South American championship in 1980.

A small population, grinding poverty and the inability of its clubs to retain star players have been major handicaps for Paraguay, whose mediocre international record in no way reflects the number of exceptionally talented players it consistently produces.

Given its fairly sympathetic draw, Paraguay is fully capable of reaching the quarter finals.



● Julio Cesar Romero (Paraguay)



● Hussein Saeed (Iraq)

Iraq's best yet!

Iraq overcame Syria despite playing both legs away from home.

Little wonder, as Iraq has been among Asia's best for some time, while Syria's overall record is little above the mediocre.

Participation in the Mundial is merely a natural progression for a side which has gradually emerged as the most powerful in the Middle East over the past decade.

Iraq has twice previously appeared on the world stage — in the 1980 and 1984 Olympic finals where it performed creditably but seemed capable of doing considerably better.

In the US two years ago, it outplayed eventual bronze medalist Yugoslavia for long periods, led 2-0 at half time, squandered numerous chances but eventually succumbed 2-4.

Star of the Iraqi side is undeniably Hussein Saeed, a 28-year-old centre forward of exceptional, all-round ability.

Another Iraqi to pay special attention to is competent, solid central defender Adnan Dergal.

Overall, the squad has a great deal more depth than any previous Asian qualifier and, under Brazilian coach Edu, looks capable of at least matching Kuwait's performances in Spain two years ago.

Certainly, they are the most likely of the potential giant killers.

FINAL EIGHT BEST HOPE FOR SCOT

Unless Scotland improves dramatically between now and June, it is destined to play yet another cameo role in Mexico.

As ever, the Scots boast players of supreme skill — but too few for a World Cup winning side.

Graceme Souness, at long last, is gaining recognition as a midfielder able to influence the outcome of any game; Kenny Dalglish's credentials are beyond dispute but he has yet to show his true form during a finals tournament and 1986 represents his last opportunity; Willie Miller is a centre back who has gained respect throughout the soccer world; skillful young midfielder-cum defender Steve Nicol may well come of age in Mexico and winger Davie Cooper can take most defences apart if "on song".

The Scots have been denied a place in the quarter finals of the last three tournaments on goal difference. Qualification for the final eight will be greeted as a breakthrough and that probably is the extent of their realistic ambitions.



● Davie Cooper (Scotland)

Esterhazy, Detari new stars

A Hungarian revival at last?

The ease with which the Magyars qualified from their group and the magnitude of friendly international wins in West Germany and Wales suggests as much.

Certainly, the team, when on song, has the poise, confidence and abundant skills reminiscent of classical Danubian teams of the past, particularly in midfield and attack. A tendency to dwell too long on the ball in defence is the one apparent weakness.

Tibor Nyilasi, Hungary's outstanding player of the past decade and now its captain, will be particularly anxious to shine in Mexico. He did not produce anything near his true form during the 1978 and 1982 tournaments and now has what will probably be his last chance to prove himself on the world stage.

But, it is fellow midfielder Lajos Detari who has stolen much of the limelight in the past year. Superb ball control, balance and sense for the

spectacular make him something a little bit special. Marton Esterhazy too is blessed with great ability. A



● Lajos Detari (Hungary)

winger of pace, vision and creativity, he could easily be the tournament's revelation.

Hungary will be going into this Mundial with greater optimism than any time since 1954. Let us hope that the renaissance is not merely an aberration.

The soccer world needs a strong Hungary, never more so than now.

GROUP D HERE COME THE FIGHTING IRISH

The presence of the fighting Irish, international soccer's most enduring giantkillers, will inevitably add color and romance to the finals in Mexico.

A first for Africa?

Few can begrudge Algeria becoming the first African country to reach two successive World Cup Finals.

In 1982, it only was denied a place in the second round by West Germany and Austria contriving a result which enabled the central European neighbors to advance at the expense of Algeria, which earlier had beaten Germany 2-1 in one of the all-time shocks.

The Algerians then will have the sympathy of most neutrals, they also have a very useful side, which will stand them in even greater stead.

Cakhdar Belloumi is a gifted midfielder, Rabah Madjer a clinical finisher, Mokdell Cerbah among Africa's best goalkeepers, Noumedine Kowrichi and Fawzi Mansouri form a solid central defence, robust full back Mahmoud Guendouz has progressed admirably since Spain and Ali Fergani complements Belloumi superbly as midfield-cum-deep-lying centre forward.

Algeria could well provide the Dark Continent with her first World Cup quarter finalist.

Goalkeeper Pat Jennings, 41, will obviously be in the limelight and others likely to make their presence felt are young winger Steve Penney — likened, somewhat unfairly, to George Best — 1982 hero Gerry Armstrong, seasoned midfielders Sammy McIlroy and Martin O'Neill and the robust young linkman Norman Whiteside who will be determined to extend an ever-growing reputation.

The Ulstermen have beaten Spain, West Germany and Rumania on their travels during the past four years. Who would bet against them claiming a further distinguished scalp?

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Spain's second chance

Spain's insipid performances in Scotland and Wales while topping European qualifying Group Seven emphasises their vulnerability away from home and little will be expected of them in Mexico, even if it is a Spanish-speaking environment.

But, as runners-up in the 1984 European championship finals, they deserve respect and, if they enjoy the kind of form and luck experienced in France they may surprise a few people and erase memories of the 1982 World Cup finals campaign in which the hosts flopped badly.

Spanish "name players" include central defender Andoni Goicoechea, the infamous "Butcher of Bilbao", seasoned defender Jose Camacho, consistent utility player Rafael Gordillo and striker Emilio Butragueno, who earns \$600,000 a year with Real Madrid.

genius

wily linkman Felix Magath; the five midfielder Uwe Rahn; explosive; Karl-Heinz Rummerige; class goalscorer and the brilliant Pierre Littbarski.

cking, it is that extra touch of very great team needs. Barcelona may have provided it but the coach Franz Beckenbauer

cescoli

s ace



● Dariusz Dziekanowski (Poland)

GROUP F Can Boniek halt Polish decline?

Poland has been the most consistent team of recent World Cups — third in both 1974 and 1982, it was a quarter finalist in 1978.

Indications are that the Poles' "Golden Era" is coming to an end however.

Performances in both World Cup qualifiers and friendly internationals have been patchy and it was relieved to qualify for Mexico through a 0-0 home draw with Belgium.

Yet, Poland can call upon Zbigniew Boniek, one of the modern game's great match winners, and other personnel capable of making considerable marks during the finals.

Goalkeeper Jozef Mlynarczyk has been rated among Europe's best, 6ft 4in centre back Roman Wojcicki certainly will make his presence felt and Derius Dziekanowski is a young striker of vast potential.

Boniek though is the key man and, unless he is at his brilliant best, the finals may well signal Poland's return among the also rans of international soccer.

Bento's the key

A Brazilian television company contacted Portugal's State broadcasting corporation seeking a tape of the epic West Germany v Portugal World Cup qualifier, only to be told that it had been so pessimistic about the match that no recording was made!

Just how Portugal will fare in Mexico depends upon a number of factors, primarily the form of erratic veteran goalkeeper Manuel Bento, the ability of dynamic midfielder Fernando Chalana to shrug off injuries which have dogged



● Inacio (Portugal)

him of late and the progress 20 year old linkman Paulo Futre makes in fulfilling an enormous potential.

If Bento can keep the ball out of his goal and Chalana and Futre are creative then prolific goalscorer Fernando Gomes will be an obvious match winner.

Mexico will witness Portugal's first World Cup Finals appearance since it finished third in 1966.

Morocco returns

During Morocco's one previous finals appearance, ironically in Mexico 16 years ago, it led West Germany for a long period before losing 1-2, and gained a hard-fought draw with Bulgaria.

Morocco will probably be just as difficult to beat this time for it is a workmanlike, solid combination; unfortunately somewhat lacking in the flair that the rest of the world expects from an African side.

Best known of the Moroccan players are Zaki, a solid goalkeeper, and exciting French-based professional Kriman who scores spectacular goals.

lotto

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Little Tsolakis sizzles!



Exodus of stars at Heidelberg

No Charlie Yankos, no Stuart Stevenson, no Steve Winn, no Scott Patterson and no Mike Valentine.....it's a new-look Heidelberg Alexander.

Yankos has gone to West Adelaide Hellas, Winn to Inter Monaro, Stevenson is trying to join Olympic while Patterson and Valentine are on the transfer list.

Heidelberg coach Brian Garvey is toying with the idea of using midfielder George Christopoulos to plug the gap left in defence by the departure of sweeper Yankos, but Steve Marley played there on Friday.

Garvey also has high hopes for Alan Hunter, and Andy Higgins, a 6'4" striker who has played with Chester in England and Hellenic in South Africa.

Hunter was signed from Brisbane Lions for \$16,000. He's a fine stopper and should Christopoulos make a list of the sweeper's role then once again Heidelberg's strength will be at the back where Ian McKie and Marley are two of the most uncompromising fullbacks in the NSL and Jeff Oliver is set to replace Terry Greedy as the Soccerro goalkeeper.

Jim Small, a midfielder from New Zealand, has been training with Heidelberg but hadn't signed as we went to press.

Good news for Heidelberg fans is the return, from knee reconstruction surgery, of striker Pashalis Tzintzis, sidelined throughout 1985. Tzintzis joined Heidelberg in 1984 from South Oakleigh and made a big impression in the Buffalo Gold Cup of that year.

Steve Tasios and John Gabrielson have been training in Greece during the off-season and are expected to arrive back shortly.

Joe Angele, who had an ankle operation before Christmas, resumed full training last week. He could be used in midfield this year.

Garvey expects youngsters Chris Katsakidis, George Katsakis and Andrew Theodorou to continue the improvement they showed last season. Garvey's first team squad is:

GOALKEEPERS: Jeff Oliver.
DEFENDERS: McKie, Marley, Hunter, Angele, Katsakidis, Katsakis, Gabrielson.

MIDFIELDERS: Theo Selemidis, Christopoulos, Theodorou, Tasios.
FORWARDS: John Metaxas, Nick Deligiannis, Tzintzis, Peter Tsolakis, Higgins.

● Heidelberg's probable best line-up: Oliver — McKie, Christopoulos, Hunter, Marley — Selemidis, Angele, Tasios — Metaxas, Higgins, Tsolakis.

ALL THE VOTES

Voting so far in the Buffalo Gold Cup best player award:

Croydon v. Box Hill: 3. McDonald (C), 2. Ramos (BH), 1. A.Roodhouse (BH).

Green Gully v. Morwell Falcons: 3. Barichello (GG), 2. Cassar (MF), N. Krajaic (GG).

Juventus v. Western Suburbs: 3. Wade (J), 2. Lewis (J), 1. Cullen (J).

Heidelberg v. Makedonia: 3. Tsolakis (H), 2. Dobson (M), 1. Metaxas (H).



● Heidelberg recruit Alan Hunter (front) in an aerial contest with Gary Cole of Makedonia.

● Heidelberg-Alexander, from left, standing: Nicolaides, Katsakidis, Christopoulos, Oliver, Hunter, Higgins, Selemidis. Front: Tsolakis, Theodorou, Metaxas, Deligiannis, McKie, Marley, Tzintzis.

Heidelberg 1 Makedonia 1

Scorers: Peter Tsolakis (HA) 6th; Gary Cole (PM) 10th.

You've got to hand it to Brian Garvey. He's been losing key players en masse yet he keeps coming up with a successful and, more important, entertaining line-up.

With Charlie Yankos gone, Garvey introduced Alan Hunter from Brisbane Lions, and the big defender should fit snugly into Heidelberg's ball-playing style.

He showed his stuff when he played the ball stylishly out of defence in the second half, with a one-two on the touchline, followed by a lob over an opponent.

Meaning no disrespect to South African recruit Andy Higgins, I would venture to say that Heidelberg may have won had he not replaced Nick Deligiannis at half time.

Obviously Higgins had to be given a run, but the departure of Deligiannis broke the rhythm of the forward line.

Up to half time, Deligiannis, Peter Tsolakis, John Metaxas and Paul Tzintzis, back after his long lay-off due to injury, combined with breathtaking speed and panache as they stretched the Makedonia defence to breaking point.

George Christopoulos in midfield, displayed some of the best form since he joined Heidelberg from Canberra early last year, until Makedonia grabbed a fair slice of play in the second half.

Makedonia's Gary Cole, who scored the equaliser in the 10th minute, had two other goals disallowed from offside. The first of them came in the 32nd minute, after a combination with Graham Heys, and the second in the 60th minute, after Heys had crossed.

Cole and Sean Lane were dangerous whenever the ball reached them — which wasn't often enough, because Makedonia's midfield played poorly.

Tsolakis, the smallest player in the NSL, put on the best performance of the competition so far.

Ian Roodhouse, playing at right back in his first Makedonia appearance since transferring from Box Hill, was powerless against the tiny magician who ruled the game like some pint-sized Maradona.

Tsolakis scored for Heidelberg from a free kick taken after Theo Selemidis had run over the ball in the 6th minute. Seconds later, Deligiannis busted past Con Opasinos following a forward lob from Christopoulos but his shot, which beat goalkeeper Phil Traianedes, was fractionally wide.

A mix-up in Heidelberg's defence presented Lane with a free shot in the 10th minute. Goalkeeper Jeff Oliver reacted brilliantly to parry the ball, but Cole was on hand to slide it into the net at the far post for the equaliser.

Tzintzis, typical of the verve shown by all four attackers, beat three men on a mazy solo run, cut inside but shot into the side netting.

Then came a few promising moves by Makedonia. Lane, on the turn, shot narrowly over the top and then Roodhouse played a series of one-twos up the right presenting Cole with a shot which was blocked by Hunter.

Nick van Egmond, having a quiet game in his debut after transferring from Wilhelmia, curled in an expert free kick from which defender Ian Dobson came close to scoring with a header.

But Heidelberg should have ended the half with a 2-1 lead, for Tzintzis shot straight at Traianedes after mazy lead play by Tsolakis and Deligiannis just before the whistle sounded.

Makedonia coach Bill Murray reshuffled his line-up for the second half, shifting Mike McLellan from midfield to left back, Borce Momirovski from left back to left midfield, van Egmond from the left to the right and Heys into the middle.

Man of the match:
PETER TSOLAKIS
(H'berg-Alexander)

Talking about team changes, it was interesting to see Steve Marley, normally a left back, playing as Heidelberg's sweeper — and doing so with distinction.

It was Marley who cleared off the goal line in the 46th minute, but referee Sam Zoumas should have stopped play as Oliver clearly had been fouled in going for the ball.

Tzintzis suffered a head wound in the 59th minute and was replaced by Andy Theodorou.

The match ended with Oliver making a magnificent save which preserved the draw for Heidelberg.

The shot came from Heys, after a through ball from Cole.

LAURIE SCHWAB

On transfer

The official Victorian Soccer Federation Transfer List

Croydon City: G Bates \$1500, D Singleton \$3000, T Brewer \$2500, A Kerr \$2500, M Edwards \$500.

Fawkner: F MacLeod \$3000 NEG, I Loughnane \$2500 NEG.

Green Gully: A Vassallo \$2000, J Williams \$2500.

Heidelberg Utd: S Patterson \$15,000, M Valentine \$15,000.

Melbourne Croatia: U Jukic \$1000, P Kerovic Free, S Koskka \$1500, D Sabjak \$1500, R Saitlik \$2000, J Subic \$500.

Morwell Falcons: 1 Stirtan \$5000

Preston-Makedonia: Z Anastasovski \$2500, J Gajic \$4000, G Heys \$7500, N Kotevski \$2000, L Petrovski \$6000, W Spink \$6000, R Wilson \$10,000.

Sunshine George Cross: G Benoit \$5000, M McGorian \$4000.

Match details

GREEN GULLY 0 MORWELL FALCONS 0. Referee: Sam Zoumas. 7. Cautions: O'Callaghan (MF), Murray (GG). Crowd: about 120 (double header).

GREEN GULLY: Denys 6 — Vizzini 5, Krajacic 6, McLellan 6, Murray 5 — Barichello 7, Flavell 6, Carter 3, Pace 4 — Lewis 3, Cumming 6. Coach: George Murray.

MORWELL FALCONS: Prezioso 7 — Palermo 6, Tutill 6, Bruns 7, Train 6 — T van Baar 4, Wilson 4, O'Callaghan 4, Cassar 6 — J van Baar 6, Miekus 3 (Sostak 57th). Coach: Joe Solberras.

CROYDON 1 (McPhee own goal 37th) BOX HILL 0. Referee: Chris Bambridge. 6. Cautions: Taylor, Tansey (Croy), Hennessy (BH). Crowd: about 120 (double header).

CROYDON: Blasby 6 — Brown 7, K Taylor 8, O'Reilly 7, Tansey 6 — McDonald 8, Beech 7, Livingstone 6 — Ollerston 6, French 6, A Humble 6. Coach: Peter Ollerston.

BOX HILL: McKinlay 6 — McPhee 7, A McMillan 7, Davidson 7, A Roodhouse 8 — Ramos 8, C Taylor 7, Hennessy 7, Burton 6 — Azzopardi 6, Verechia 6 (in). Griffin 55th. Coach: Keith Webster.

BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS 2 (Wade 8th, B Brown 46th) WESTERN SUBURBS 0. Referee: Dennis Voutsinas. 7. Cautions: Cullen, Peter Lewis (BJ); Stenson, Beattie, Lekkas (WS). Crowd: about 2000.

BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS: Marrama 7 — Peter Lewis 8, B Brown 8, Dowie 7, E Campbell 7 — Cullen 8, Wade 8, Petersen 7, Durakovic 7 — Sweeney 7, Zinni 6. Coach: Len McKendry.

WESTERN SUBURBS: Apostolidis 6 — Beattie 5, Dimovski 6, Esposito 7, Lekkas 5 — Kakantonis 5 (John Condilis 55th), Smallman 5, Stenson 5, Hamill 5 — McGuinness 5, Tuck 5. Coach: Jim Condilis.

HEIDELBERG-ALEXANDER 1 (Tsolakis 6th) PRESTON MAKEDONIA 1 (Cole 10th). Referee: Sam Zoumas. 4. Cautions: Momirovski (PM); Higgins (HA), Selemidis (HA). Crowd: about 2000.

HEIDELBERG-ALEXANDER: Oliver 8 — McKie 6, Hunter 7, Marley 8, Katsakidis 6 — Selemidis 5, Christopoulos 7 — Metaxas 7, Tzintzis 6 (in), sub: Theodorou 59th, Deligiannis 7 (Higgins 5, half time), Tsolakis 9. Coach: Brian Garvey.

PRESTON MAKEDONIA: Traianedes 7 — I Roodhouse 6, Opasinos 6, Dobson 7, Momirovski 4 — Heys 6, McLennan 4, Petrov 4, van Egmond 4 — Cole 8, Lane 7. Coach: Bill Murray.

SUNSHINE-GEORGE CROSS 1 (Parton 1st) FOOTSCRAY J.U.S.T. 0. Referee: Dennis Voutsinas. 6. Crowd: about 5,000. Cautions: R. Barjaktarevic, Belic (FJ). Sent off: Turudia (FJ).

SUNSHINE-GEORGE CROSS: Kastner 7 — Taylor 7, James 7, Parton 7, Campbell 7 — Faulkner 5, Maclean 7, Bain 7, Toal 6 (Lannon 55th), Mitten 7, Glider 7. Coach: John Gardiner.

FOOTSCRAY J.U.S.T.: Turudia 4 (sent off 35th) — R. Barjaktarevic 6, L. Barjaktarevic 7, Belic 6, Kal 6 — Bolic 5 (Vajic 35th), Tapai 8, Perez-Reyes 6 (in), Obak 34th — Latsopoulos 6, Latif 5, Lujic 6. Coach: Zdravko Lujic (caratek).

MELBOURNE CROATIA 2 (Markovac 52nd, Ward 59th) SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS 1 (McDowall 63rd). Referee: Chris Bambridge. 6. Crowd: about 5,000. Cautions: Egan, Miranda, McDowall (SMH); Runje, Hannah, McIntosh, Desankovic (Cro).

MELBOURNE CROATIA: Runje 7 — Curcio 6 — McIntosh 7, Hannah 7 — Desankovic 6, Markovac 7, Bonacic 5 (Vajic 35th), Ward 53rd — Biskic 7, Markovac 7 (Telajic 64th), Golevic 7. Coach: Miron Bleiberg.

SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS: Laumets 7 — Russell 7, Blair 7, McDowall 7, Postecoglou 6 — Halford 8, Miranda 7, Bozinovski 7, Murphy 7 — Egan 5, Brown 5. Coach: John Margantis.

Barichello shines, Flavell in debut

Cumming's free kick in the 58th minute.

Cumming, on the park although he had not yet agreed to the terms of a new contract, had one other excellent scoring chance, but hit the crossbar after a fine cross by Barichello.

Gordon Flavell, making his debut for Gully after transferring from Makedonia, was the anchor man in midfield, but his passes were ineffective either because his timing was astray, or his targets weren't quick enough in moving to the ball.

LAURIE SCHWAB

Dockerty Cup

Rich Dockerty Cup games to be played on Saturday, February 15: Mornington v. Clarinda, Prahran v. Corio, Cullen Hill v. Prahran City, Ballarat v. Nth Dandenong, Langwarrin v. West Brunswick, Rosanna v. Werribee, Moreland Park Rangers v. Altona City, Yarraville v. Taralgon Olympians, Port Melbourne v. Altona City, Geelong v. East Brunswick, Moorabbin v. Hawthorn, Ringwood United v. Nunawading City, Waverley City v. Lavonia, Leong Holdings v. Essendon City, SM Marildale v. Dandenong City.

Man of the match:
FAB BARICHELLO
(G Gully)

Green Gully 0 Morwell Falc 0

No Stirtan, no Athersych, no Maclean, no Moore, no Lucchesi, Hogen, Smart, Cannell and Campbell.

But there was young Fab Barichello, the Green Gully youth player who certainly has a bright future.

Operating on the right of Gully's midfield against Morwell Falcons in front of the empty Olympic Park terraces he showed dash that put the senior players to shame.

The only other highlight was a fine save by Morwell Falcons' young goalkeeper Romeo Prezioso, who stopped Tommy

Juventus marching toward semi spot

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

Brunswick Juventus should continue on its path toward a semi-final berth in the 1986 Buffalo Gold Cup by beating Morwell Falcons at Olympic Park tonight (Wednesday) and sound a clear warning to all title contenders that the black and whites are intent on winning successive national championships.

The switch of Len McKendry to Juventus and John Margaritis to Hellas was the biggest talking point in Victorian soccer circles during the close season and their rivalry adds spice to what should be a tremendous Buffalo Cup series.

Juventus hadn't signed up all of last year's first team squad as we went to press but president Joe Caruso was confident of doing so. The only newcomers looming on the horizon so far is John Vzeodoorn from South Melbourne Hellas although Juve and Hellas are yet to reach agreement over his transfer fee.

Hellas president Jim Diamataris announced last week that his West Adelaide Hellas counterpart, Frank Karagiannis, had made a \$17,400 bid for Vzeodoorn. However, the former Soccerco Swooper is unlikely to move to South Australia.

Richard Miranda is the only loss from the Juve team which reached such dizzy heights in 1985. He's joined Hellas for \$4,000.

Morwell Falcons battled hard for their 0-0 draw with Green Gully last week in the first round of the Buffalo Cup. No doubt Falcons will give it their best shot again against Juve but they'll be outgunned and outclassed.

The second match tonight features Preston Makedonia and Box Hill. I was very disappointed with Makedonia's first half display last week against Heidelberg Alexander which pushed four players up on Makedonia's back four and looked a hell of a lot sharper. Okay, Makedonia featured newcomers Ian Rodhouse, Mike McLellan and Nick van Egmond and they'll take time to slot in, but Makedonia looked very ordinary in the first half which can't have pleased coach Bill Murray.

Even so, surely Makedonia can overcome the threat posed by Box Hill.

Sunshine-George Cross will find 1985 State League champion Croydon a handful in the

first game of Friday night's double header at Olympic Park. The outcome of this clash could be decided in midfield, an area in which Cross needs strengthening in my opinion. The Carl Gilder-Noel Mitten partnership will carry the flag for Cross up front against experienced Croydon campaigners in Jim O'Reilly and Kenny Taylor. Mitten's pace poses the biggest threat to the Croydon duo.

The second game on Friday should see Melbourne Croatia defeat Green Gully. Gully is in disarray at present. Its first team squad far from settled due to injury and contractual disputes, whereas Croatia has more depth than any other Melbourne-based NSL side.

South Melbourne Hellas should be too strong for Western Suburbs in the first of Saturday night's double header. Suburbs' central defenders Andy Esposito and Steve Dimovski battled hard against overwhelming odds in Suburbs' 2-2 loss to Juventus last week and will get no respite when they confront Charlie Egan and Doug Brown.

Heidelberg Alexander lined up with the smallest strike force I've seen in the NSL for its 1-1 draw with Makedonia last week. John Metaxas, Pashalis Tzintzis, Nick Deligiannis and Peter Tsolakis belied their diminutive appearance and at times tore the Makedonia defence apart. Deligiannis was very unlucky to be taken off at half time and replaced by import Andy Higgins.

The move indicates that we're likely to see Higgins in the starting line-up for the second game on Saturday between Heidelberg Alexander and Footscray J.U.S.T.

At this stage of the season, there's not a great deal of difference between these sides. I'm going for a draw. A highlight of this game will be the confrontation of new signing Ossie Latif of J.U.S.T. and Alan Hunter of Heidelberg.

The programme

Buffalo Gold cup schedule

TONIGHT (WEDNESDAY): 1st GAME: Juventus v Morwell Falcons, 2nd GAME: Makedonia v Box Hill.

FRIDAY: 1st GAME: Sunshine George Cross v Croydon City, 2nd GAME: Melbourne Croatia v Green Gully.

SATURDAY: 1st GAME: South Melbourne Hellas v Western Suburbs, 2nd GAME: Heidelberg Alexander v Footscray J.U.S.T.

WEDNESDAY, February 5: 1st GAME: Morwell Falcons v Western Suburbs, 2nd GAME: Sunshine George Cross v Box Hill.

FRIDAY, February 7: 1st GAME: South Melbourne Hellas v Green Gully, 2nd GAME: Makedonia v Footscray J.U.S.T.

SATURDAY, February 8: 1st GAME: Heidelberg Alexander v Croydon City, 2nd GAME: Juventus v Melbourne Croatia.

WEDNESDAY, February 12: 1st GAME: Green Gully v Western Suburbs, 2nd GAME: Makedonia v Croydon City.

FRIDAY, February 14: 1st GAME: Melbourne Croatia v Morwell Falcons, 2nd GAME: Heidelberg Alexander v Sunshine George Cross.

SATURDAY, February 15: 1st GAME: Footscray J.U.S.T. v Box Hill, 2nd GAME: Juventus v South Melbourne Hellas.

WEDNESDAY, February 19: 1st GAME: Footscray J.U.S.T. v Croydon City, 2nd GAME: Juventus v Green Gully.

FRIDAY, February 21: 1st GAME: Heidelberg Alexander v Box Hill, 2nd GAME: South Melbourne Hellas v Morwell Falcons.

SATURDAY, February 22: 1st GAME: Melbourne Croatia v Western Suburbs, 2nd GAME: Makedonia v Sunshine George Cross. SATURDAY, March 1: Semi Finals. SATURDAY, March 8: Final.

Easy for the champs, Zinni fires blanks

B. Juventus 2
W. Suburbs 0

Scorers: Wade 8th, B Brown 46th.

"There's maybe one chance in 100 that Andrew Zinni will be joining Marconi," said Juventus president Joe Caruso after what was little more than a training run for the national champs.

Zinni hadn't agreed terms with Juventus before the match and Marconi coach Les Scheinflug sees the pacy winger as the ideal replacement for Peter Sharne, who has retired.

Zinni played up front here alongside Joe Sweeney and it was Zinni's inaccuracy in front of goal which saved Suburbs from what should have been a highly embarrassing scoreline.

Suburbs had signed former Welsh international David Smallman from Green

Man of the match: PETER LEWIS (B. Juventus)

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Man of the match: PETER LEWIS (B. Juventus)



Joe Sweeney outjumps Andy Esposito of Western Suburbs. Pictures by LES SHORROCK.

Man of the match: PETER LEWIS (B. Juventus)

Gully for \$2000 before the match but Smallman was unable to breathe life into a Suburbs midfield which was completely outplayed. On the few occasions Suburbs got forward, they found getting past the best defence in Australian soccer too tall a task.

Paul Wade's header in the 8th minute opened the scoring and threatened to open the floodgates.

Rob Cullen broke down the right in the 17th minute and squared the ball across the face of goal to Zinni, dead in front. Zinni, confronted with a simple tap in, miscued and the ball slid just past the post.

Mehmet Durakovic was the next in line for a bad miss. In the 20th minute he somehow managed to shoot wide from six metres.

A minute into the second half Juventus presented Suburbs with their only chance of the game. Brian

Man of the match: PETER LEWIS (B. Juventus)

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Man of the match: PETER LEWIS (B. Juventus)

Own goal due to push from behind!

Croydon 1
Box Hill 0

Scorer: McPhee own goal 37th.

I wouldn't like to be in referee Chris Bambridge's shoes at the giant Azteca Stadium in Mexico later this year if he awards a goal for the home team after failing to pick up the sort of infringement he failed to pick up in this match.

Bambridge seemed to be in a good position to view the incident which resulted in the only goal of the game early in the second half. Box Hill had failed to clear effectively and as young right back Gary McPhee tried to knock the ball out for a corner he was clearly pushed in

the back by Croydon's Alex Livingstone. The push forced McPhee to miscue and the ball lobbed over the stranded John McKinlay and into the Box Hill goal.

Nevertheless, Bambridge thoroughly deserves the honour bestowed on him last week it was announced that he would be one of 36 referees to officiate at the 1986 World Cup finals. He's the best ref in Australia and after his fine display in China last year when he refereed the under 16 World Cup final, there's every reason to believe that Bambridge could be tossed the whistle for one of the more vital clashes in the upcoming World Cup finals.

But back to much more mundane matters. Peter Blasby and Andy Humble were making their debuts

Man of the match: ALAN RODHOUSE (Box Hill)

for Croydon. Blasby had switched from Morwell Falcons, Humble from Box Hill. Barry Burton was making his debut for Box Hill after joining from Ringwood Wilhelmina.

This trio didn't make their mark on the outcome. Blasby didn't have a lot to do, Humble missed one of the best chances of the game and Burton, who had to leave the field to receive treatment in the first half, was the quietest of the Box Hill midfielders.

Right on half time, Humble broke through with only McKinlay confronting him but shot wide of the far post.

Box Hill didn't get rattled after McPhee's own goal and was full of running in the second half. Even so, Croydon created the best chance of the half. In the 60th minute, Peter Ollerton played the ball to Jim Tansey, overlapping on the left. Tansey's deep cross was met first time by Livingstone who squared the ball for Graham French. Uncharacteristically, French ballooned his shot from just four metres.

CRAIG MACKENZIE



Croydon sweeper Ken Taylor clears in front of Box Hill's David Azzopardi.



Vassallo coach of North Sunshine

North Sunshine United's bid to win promotion from the Second Division of Victoria's Provisional Leagues gained impetus when it signed former Malta captain and Green Gully star Willie Vassallo as player-coach recently.

North Sunshine United was formed about 17 years ago and has enjoyed success in recent times. It won the Fourth Division championship in 1983, finished runner-up in Third Division in 1984 and was fifth last year.

Vassallo's skill and experience is bound to be a lure for new players. North Sunshine United trains at Larri Road Reserve in St Albans on Tuesday and Thursday nights at 6.15pm.

Ringwood gears up

Ringwood United Serbia of the Victorian League Second Division, is negotiating with four players with State League experience as it builds for the 1986 season.

Ringwood has retained last year's first teamers but still is on the look-out for suitably qualified newcomers. Interested players can contact Ken Kontra after hours on (03) 726 7527, Jim Mills after hours on 795 8469 or Branko Jevtic after hours on 870 5847.

Great debut by Lou Hristodoulou



**SOUTH AUSTRALIAN
AMPOL CUP**
with ALLAN CRISP

WA-Hellas 3 Polonia 1

Scorers: Panagis, Hristodoulou 2 (WA); Karpinski (P).

Many are called as soccer players, but few are chosen as international superstars.

Lou Hristodoulou, on the evidence of his official senior debut in this match, is a Soccer World Cup prospect.

Hristodoulou, who was the youngest member of the Australian youth team which contested the Youth World Cup finals in the USSR, showed maturity beyond his 19 years in steering Hellas to an impressive 3-1 win over Polonia.

The youngster oozed skill and confidence when he converted a penalty to regain the lead for Hellas and capped a fine performance with a splendid angled drive nine minutes from full time.

Earlier, another former Soccer World Cup international, John Panagis, had given Hellas a superb opening advantage with a screaming 25 metre net-buster.

Adam Karpinski maintained the quality of marksmanship with an equalling curling free-kick before Hristodoulou coolly scored from the spot.

Hellas, even without its latest Scottish import Brian McLaughlin, produced an exciting brand of fluid football that should make it the team to beat in this summer series. Coach Neil McGachey still has Charlie Yankos, Robbie Dunn and probably three other significant new signings to boost his NSL title-hunting squad.

McGachey allowed himself

the luxury of keeping buzz-bomb striker George Konstantopoulos on the bench until the start of the second half and his introduction provided fresh problems for the already perplexed Polonia defence.

Last season's Player of the Year, Graham Honeyman, underlined his versatility by moving from his 1985 sweeper's role to run up front and cover for the absence of injured Gary Price.



● Lou Hristodoulou (front row, extreme right) with the 1985 national youth team, back row: Mirko Runje, John Gregson, Aki Kotzamichalis, Andrew Koczka, Mark Jones, John Panagis, Angie Postecoglou. Middle row: Dr S Kannanngara (team doctor), Henry Wajawelner (physio), Alex Bundalo, Sean Ingham, Paul Jones, Warren Spink, Richard Basingthwaite, Jim Shoulder (coach), Brian Emery (ASF executive director). Front: Mike McLennan, Peter Petkovski, David Sharpe, Robert Hooker, Chris Kalantzis, Hristodoulou.

Brazzale and Millar cover loss of Toland

Beograd 2 Salisbury 0

Scorers: Welsh, Rusmir
Rothmans League runner-up
Beograd gained sweet revenge
over 1985 champion Salisbury
United in this Ampol Cup pipe-
opener.

Beograd, under new coach Johnny Nyskohus, looked classy and potentially brilliant. But, realist Nyskohus knows that the Berries were a shadow of their 1985 selves without Gary Higgins (signed with Adelaide City Juventus), Duane Gray (training with APLA in Sydney), Frank Ostendorf (retired) and Gordon Haig, Graham Latham, Jason Batten and Chris Harwood (holidays).

By contrast, Beograd kept Paul Shillabeer and Richard Preston from the clutches of other clubs and went into its first assignment for the season with new men Andrew Brazzale (Birkdale) and Peter Millar (Salisbury).

Beograd's major loss for 1986 is ace midfielder Andy Toland who has joined Perth club Bayswater Inter in company with Adelaide Juventus midfielder or defender Mike Donnelly.

SA midfielder Brian Welsh put Beograd in front after accepting a long through ball from State team colleague Paul Shillabeer before Dusan Rusmir made it 2-0 with an easy put away.

Berries boss Jimmy Campbell must have been consoled that his charges kept Beograd scoreless in the second half, but the almost total domination of his strikers, Steve McNally, Harry Bell and Tony Gasparetto, was surely a worry.

SA CUP DETAILS

WEST ADELAIDE HELLAS 3 (Panagis 23rd, Hristodoulou 48th and 71st) POLONIA 1 (Karpinski 32nd) at Hindmarsh Stadium. Cautions: P Mullen (Polonia), L Maticcsak (Hellas). Crowd: 2500 (double-header). Referee: John Miller 8.

WEST ADELAIDE HELLAS: A Crook 7 — Mousoulis 7, Brown 8, Maticcsak 6, Hiern 8 — Panagis 8, Manou 7, Scott 7 — Hristodoulou 9, Honeyman 8, Papadopoulos 6 (Konstantopoulos 41st 8). Coach: Neil McGachey.

POLONIA: Jacques 9 — DiBartolo 7, P Mullen 7, Harley 8, S Cafuta 7 — Doorne 8, P Kosmina 7, Marko 6, Karpinski 8 — Piotrowski 7, Greig 7. Coaches: H Kolocki, J Larecki.

BEograd 2 (Welsh 15th, Rusmir 36th) SALISBURY UNITED 0 at Hindmarsh Stadium. Crowd: 2500 (double-header). Referee: Jim Rossis 8.

BEograd: Pasquini 7 — Kirzman 7, Shillabeer 8, C Miller 8, Douglas 6 — A Brazzale 8, Welsh 8, Rusmir 7 — M Brazzale 7 (Arazina 59th), Preston 7, P Millar 7. Coach: J Nyskohus.

SALISBURY UNITED: Gela 7 — Baird 6 (McFaul 55th), Irvine 6, Begg 8, Ton 8 — Boyle 7, Campbell 7, Hutchins 6 (Williams 55th) — Gasparetto 6, McNally 6, Bell 7. Coach: Jimmy Campbell.



● Graham Honeyman

Morton, Brine swap

By
WALTER
PLESS



● Ken Morton

The swapping of coaches by Juventus-Pioneer and Olympic-WPL was the big news in southern Tasmanian soccer during the off-season.

Ken Morton, who took Juventus to the past two Cadbury State League and State titles, moved to Olympic while Peter Brine, who coached Juventus to the 1983 title before taking over Olympia from Otto Klaus midway through the 1984 season, moved back to Juventus.

Brine had never wanted to leave Juventus in the first place but, after being publicly reappointed at the end of the 1983 season, he was surprisingly dumped in favor of Ken Morton.

The former English professional (Middlebrough) then stayed out of the game for six months before taking over at Olympia when that club and Otto Klaus parted company.

The irony of the present situation is that Morton has again taken over from Brine who did not really want to leave Olympia, despite his lack of success at the club over the past season and a half.

Brine had intended moving interstate and told Olympia so. The club appointed Morton in his place, only to see Brine change his mind about moving and expressing his desire to stay on.

It was much too late by then, however, and Brine had resigned himself to sitting out the season when Juventus came in with an offer.

"A lot of people have said I'm stupid to go back but we'll wait and see about that," Brine said. "There's a lot of work to be done but I'm quite happy."

"You can't have any bad feelings with Ernie (Juventus president, Ernie Schiro), in a sense, he's a businessman through and through and he does what he thinks is right. "The way he did it with me (terminated his employment at the end of 1983) was probably wrong but, as he'll always say, he didn't sack me."

Brine feels that he left Olympia prematurely and that he did not have the time to finish off what he started there.

He thinks however that he can bring the title to Juventus for a fourth successive year, especially if former top striker Bruce Ward, who has been out of action for 18 months because of a knee injury, is fit to resume.

"I don't see why we can't win again," Brine said. "But other teams have improved and a lot of complacency has set in with these players."

"We saw that last year and they've got to prove themselves again. It's not going to be easy but it's up to us to get things going again and, hopefully, we can."

Morton, who had run out of challenges in Tasmania, is looking forward to bringing about an Olympia revival.

"The move was a very difficult decision to have to make because I had two very enjoyable years at Juventus," he said.

"Basically, I made the move because of the challenge it gives me. I was given a very attractive contract but, the main reason for me going is because of the scope which is got to work with the players."

"Olympia have promised so much in the past two years but have just flattered a little bit. I think that was mainly things going against them but I think Olympia has the potential to be a successful club."

Gmoch to AEK

OVERSEAS ROUND-UP
with PAUL MOON

● Former Preston Macedonia player Alan Whitte is now with one of England's most famous amateur clubs, Corinthian Casuals.

● As the result of a sponsorship agreement between the English Football League and a pools company, the Milk Cup (originally the Football League Cup) will be known as the Littlewoods Challenge Cup from the 1986-87 season onwards.

● Polish coach Jacek Gmoch has left Panathinaikos for its Athenian rival AEK, the club of Jim Patikas.

● George Raynor, the English coach who guided Sweden to the 1984 Olympics title and runner-up spot in the 1958 World Cup, has died.

● Carlos Caszely, regarded as Chile's greatest ever striker, has retired. He appeared against Australia in the 1974 World Cup finals.

● Hector Chumpitaz, one of the great figures of Peruvian soccer, has finally hung up his boots. His age had long been a matter of contention, but is believed to be 41.

● Former Welsh international Bryn Jones, whose \$29,000 transfer from Wolverhampton Wanderers to Arsenal was a world record back in 1938, recently died at the age of 73.

● Fluminense has won the Rio State Championship for the third successive year, clinching the title with a 2-1 win over Bangu.

● Olie Nordin, who won 19 caps during his playing career, is the new coach of Sweden.

● Kaiserslautern has renamed its Betzenberg Stadium after one of its most famous ex players — Fritz Walter, star of West Germany's 1954 World Cup winning side.

● A poll conducted by the Italian State Broadcasting Corporation revealed Antonio Cabrini to be the nation's most popular player.

● Miles Milutinovic has resigned as coach of the Yugoslav national team.

● UETA has named England and Denmark, respectively, as seeds one and two for the 1985 European Championship qualifying rounds. They are followed by Portugal (3), Holland (4), Spain (5), Belgium (6) and holders France (7). West Germany, the host, automatically qualifies for the finals, therefore was not considered for seeding. The draw will be



● Jacek Gmoch

made in Frankfurt on February 14.

● France intends to play two benefit games, against as yet unnamed opponents, for victims of the Mexican earthquake in May.

● America Call is the Colombian champion for the fourth successive year.

● Barcelona of Guayaquil has won the Ecuadorian First Division title.

● Polish international goalkeeper Josef Mlynarczyk has moved from Bastia to Porto (Portugal) after the financially beleaguered Corsican club Bristol Rover beat his wages for six weeks or a large portion of the transfer fee negotiated with Poland's national federation in 1984.

● A unique testimonial game is to be staged for Kenny Dalglish, Scotland's most capped player, before the World Cup finals commence. It will feature an Anglo Scots eleven comprised of Caledonians attached to English clubs and a Scottish "home based" combination. Tommy Docherty and Alex Ferguson are to act as selector — managers of the respective teams.

● English international goalkeeper Peter Shilton was made an MBE ("Member of the Order of the British Empire") in Britain's New Year's Honours List.

● Former St George player Trevor Morgan was the hero of one of the English FA Cup Third Round's biggest shocks, scoring twice as Third Division club Bristol Rover beat Leicester City of the First Division 3-1.

● Aston Villa's Melbourne-born midfielder Tony Dorigo has been informed he will be granted British citizenship in October of this year and thereby become eligible for

English international honors.

● Former Adelaide City Juventus central defender Neil Bainfield has signed for Tegenham of the part-time professional Gola League in England. He was given a free transfer by English Fourth Division club Orient last June.

● Striker Tommy English, who was briefly with Canberra last year, is now at English Fourth Division club Colchester United following a short, unproductive taste of Cypriot soccer.

● Japanese camera company Canon is to withdraw its sponsorship of the English Football League at the end of the current season, thus terminating a deal which pumped \$6,200,000 into English soccer over three years.



● Fritz Walter (left) with former German national coach Sepp Herberger.



VICTORIAN SOCCER FEDERATION

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Estavillo simply superb, Polish star on the way

Jurek Drys of Polonia and Vincent Estavillo of Sydney Olympic were the only bright sparks during a dull opening to the 1986 NSW Ampol Cup.

Drys was an inspiration to Polonia as it cruised to an unexpected win against new NSL team Canterbury and a memorable draw against Sydney Olympic.

For Polonia, which almost joined amateur ranks last season, the arrival of Drys has been decisive. Polonia registered six wins and a draw in the last seven rounds of the 1985 State League season then continued its good form with Drys leading the way in this year's Ampol Cup. His exceptional skills and incredible work rate have given Polonia the label of 'the team to beat'.

Estavillo, better known to fans around the world than Drys, has made an impact at Olympic from his first touch of the ball. The fact that Olympic has struggled so far in the Ampol Cup can not in any way be attributed to this fine player.

His vision and football wizardry were there for all to see in the first two encounters. And while most ran around the park aimlessly kicking the ball and leaving spectators bewildered with the lack of purpose and skill, Estavillo shone. His subtle touches, pinpoint accuracy and silky skills must have embarrassed the other players.

Who could have thought that Polonia would draw with Olympic? Well, for my money, Polonia should have taken the points. Then there was Freshwater, which lost only 2-0 to Crotchie. Penrith, which held Marconi to a 0-0 draw at half time, and St. George, which lost to Canterbury. What amazing results we're had so far!

The Ampol Cup competition consists of four groups of six teams each, which eventually will provide us with eight quarter-finalists. NSL teams usually dominate the competition but don't be surprised to see a State League side reach the quarters. Let's look at how the early matches have gone.

Sydney Olympic 3 Uruguayan Auburn 1

Scorers: Kalantzis 3, Lambropoulos 53, Soper 67 (Oly), O'Shane 28 (U).

Referee: G. Warne 8.
OLYMPIC: Meier 8 — Haniotis 7, Stankovic 7, Dakos 7, Lambropoulos 7, Bourke 5, Estavillo 8, Johnston 6 — Soper 7, Zervas 6, Kalantzis 6.
URUGUAYAN AUBURN: Rosano 6 — Jones 7, Hastie 7, Kravovic 7, O'Donnell 6 — Langan 5, Cuba 5, Genc 7, Olic 6 — Van Helden 6, O'Shane 6.

"We wuz robbed!" That was the verdict of Uruguayan players after the match.

Chris Kalantzis, the darling of the Sydney Olympic crowd, used his blistering speed and ran towards Rosano in the 8th minute. Gary Hastie blocked Kalantzis's path and looked to have won possession of the ball until Kalantzis simply pushed him out of the way then slammed the ball past Rosano. The goal was given.

All the protests by the Uruguayan players failed to referee Warne.

Uruguayan equalised through O'Shane in the 28th. A free kick outside the box failed to find the target but rebounded off an Olympic defender to the feet of O'Shane who managed to put it into the net at his second attempt.

At half time it was 1-1 and neither side looked like winning with Kravovic keeping a tight reign on Olympic's goal king Marshall Soper.

For 13 minutes of the second half little changed. Then came an incredible goal by Alex Lambropoulos. He stuck his toe under the ball and it sailed over Rosano from some 20 metres out.

Then Soper, for once free of Kravovic, rose at the far post to meet a Richard Bourke cross and head past Rosano. The Uruguayan keeper reacted slowly to Bourke's cross and Soper proved how deadly he can be with a fine header indeed.

APIA Leichhardt 1 Sutherland 1

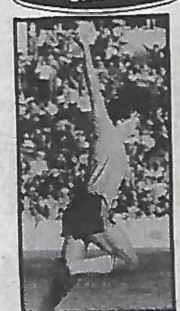
Venue: Marconi Stadium
Crowd: 1,000
Referee: Terry Seacy 8
Scorers: Hughes 39th (S), Stewart 51 (A)

APIA: Pezzano 7 — Hristovski 6, Mariani 7, Bertogna 7, Brown 7 — Bundalo 8, Colaguri 6 (51 Stevens), Butler 6, Hamilton 8 — Stewart 7, Dounis 6 (Caban 41st 8).



NSW AMPOL CUP

By ALEX VESIC



● Marshall Soper (left) and Chris Kalantzis — Olympic's scorers against Polonia and Uruguay-Auburn.

SUTHERLAND: Burchmore 8 — Nelson 6, Sellar 6, Burrows 7, Terry 7 — Johnstone 6, Parsons 7 (La Ronde 70th), Harrington 8, Sharp 7 — Duncan 6 (54th Hall), Hughes 7.

Sutherland, playing without six regulars, held APIA to a 1-1 draw in an entertaining encounter at Marconi Stadium with APIA always the more skilful side and Sutherland the better fighting outfit.

In the end it was a fair result with Scott Hughes netting for the Sharks on the stroke of half time and Darren Stewart, APIA's new signing, notching an equaliser soon after half time.

Marconi 3 Rockdale Ilinden 1

Venue: Marconi Stadium
Crowd: 1,000
Referee: Ken Small 6
Scorers: Brown 46th (RI), Tredennick 50th, 60th, Gray 80th (M).

MARCONI: James 7 — Carter 7, Henderson 7, Wheatley 8, Rizzotto 8 — Mason 6, Gray 7, Tredennick 8 — Lowe 8, Gunning 7, (Driene 39th, 6), Licata 6.

ROCKDALE ILINDEN: Petrovski 5 — J. Wilson 6, Plovski 7, Mikas 7, Blackburn 7 — Triastaflov 6 (73rd Paleganos), Groomer 6, Slavski 8 — Youseph 6, (73rd Mickovski), Nastoski 6, Brown 7.

Ross Brown, the man who had a hand in Marconi's shock exit from the Ampol Cup last year, shot his side into a 1-0 lead six minutes into the second half.

With conditions more suitable to ice hockey than football, it looked as if Ilinden was going to give Marconi a rough time.

Peter Tredennick had other ideas, scoring two goals to give Marconi the edge with Ian Gray netting the other in the dying seconds.

Ilinden's keeper had a nightmare causing his team's downfall. He also was involved in an incident which could keep Marconi's Geoff Gunning out of the game for some time. After colliding with Petrovski, Gunning hit the turf and lay motionless for some time before the referee stopped play to allow assistance to be given to the injured player. It was later confirmed that a fracture did occur with Gunning's anguished voice clearly heard all over the ground.

Polonia 2 Canterbury 0

Venue: St George Stadium
Crowd: 1,280
Scorers: Janic 15th, Pop 53rd

POLONIA: Anderson 8 — Simionescu 5, Robertson 7, Lasek 7, Geeke 7 — Mahamah 6 (Chou 75th), Drys 8, Colusso 7 — Pop 6, Janic 7, Parker 5.
CANTERBURY: Barker 7 — Karaspiros 7, Hantzis 6, Radman 7, Kirwan 7 — Fternatis 6, Angelis 5 (Mickovic 41st, 6), Antonopoulos 6 — Philippou 6, Pettas 5.

Polonia had the upper hand during the first half and Canterbury during the second.

The game was played during stormy weather with wind and rain lashing St George Stadium and one cannot but applaud both sets of players on their effort and enthusiasm.

There were two goals and the post was hit three times by Canterbury with Andrej Pop missing a sitter at the other end.

But Polonia's Pop and Stefan Janic made the difference. Janic, who scored in the 15th minute, was State League's top scorer last season and opened his account after given a second chance. His point-blank shot was saved at first by Barker but Janic picked up the rebound to find the net.

Then, with Canterbury looking the better side, Spiro Hantzis made an error which sunk his team. He held onto the ball too long and Pop pinched it to race towards Barker. Pop's chip from some 20 metres was superbly placed.

St George 0 Canterbury 1

Venue: St George Stadium
Crowd: 3178
Referee: G. Warne 7
Scorers: Philippou 58th

ST GEORGE: Greedy 7 — R. O'Shea 5, Boogaard 7 (Gibovski 61), J. O'Shea 6, Koczka 7 — Sken 6, M. O'Shea 6, Ricoy 6 — Petkovski 5, McKie 5, Cotton 5.

CANTERBURY: Barker 7 (Hummell 41st, 7) — Karaspiros 7, Hantzis 8, Radman 7, Kirwan 7, Mickovic 6, Kalogeras 6, Antonopoulos 7, Fternatis 6 (77th Severi) — Pettas 6, Philippou 7.

For about an hour, Saints struggled to find their feet yet in the process created a few chances which went begging with Roy Cotton the main culprit.

Then came a long clearance which looked harmless enough with John O'Shea and another defender outnumbering Mario Philippou. In fact, Philippou did not contest the ball. O'Shea's header landed at the feet of Canterbury's forward who hooked it into the net from 16 metres to the delight of this 3,000 strong Greek support.

Dennis Fternatis could have put the issue beyond doubt in the 74th minute but facing only Greedy he failed to beat the Saints' keeper. Philippou picked up the rebound to head past Greedy but on his occasion John O'Shea was on the line to save.

With minutes ticking away, Cotton missed yet again after Pedro Ricoy made the break.

Sydney Olympic 3 Polonia 3

Venue: St George Stadium
Crowd: 3178
Referee: R. Doenau 6

SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Meier 7 — Spanoudakis 7, Stankovic 7, Dakos 7, Lambropoulos 7 (22nd Soper, 8), Bourke 5 (Ciaramella 64th) — Phillips 7, Johnston 7, Estavillo 8 — Zervas 6, Kalantzis 6.

POLONIA: Anderson 8 — Simionescu 6 (Chou 41st, 7), Lasek 7, Robertson 7, Keeke 8 — Drys 9, Colusso 8, Janic (5th Mahamah, 7), Parker 6 — Pop 7, Cruc 6.

Polonia fell behind to a goal by Chris Kalantzis as early as the fifth minute but struck back within three minutes to lead 2-1.

Mahamah almost tore the net with his 20 metre drive to equalise then after a handling offence by Bourke it was Polonia's star player, Jurek Drys, who scored from the resultant penalty.

Bourke, then Phillips, found the woodwork with great drives at one end while Mahamah then Cruc failed to finish chances inside the penalty area.

Steve Anderson made two great saves to keep the scoreline 2-1 at half time.

Soon after half time, Cruc was brought down by Johnston and another penalty gave Drys the chance to make it 3-1. Polonia stormed forward and Andrej Pop

Sydney Olympic's new midfield magician Vicente Estavillo.

missed then Billy Parker wasted a simple opportunity which could have seen Polonia in front by four goals.

Anderson made a great save from Marshall Soper in the 57th, but soon after could not stop the lanky Novocastrian from making it 2-3. Vicente Estavillo, Olympic's star player, found Kalantzis with a great through pass but Anderson managed yet another great diving save. From the resultant corner kick a melee developed inside the area and Soper's long leg poked the ball in.

Gary Meier kept Olympic alive in the 58th minute after Drys took on four Olympic players on the run then swung a left footer from just inside the box. Meier made a great dive to his left to push it around the post.

With 12 minutes left another corner saw Olympic level. Andy Stankovic rose high to head against the underside of the crossbar and the ball rebounded off Soper to enter the net.

In the dying seconds, Soper was through but Anderson made an incredible save and the points were shared.

Olympic looked pale in this match and Soper, who arrived late for the game because of a tyre puncture on his way from Newcastle, was the only danger in front. Gary Phillips looked refreshed (it is rumored that the surf at Park Beach does that for you) while Estavillo was the star of the show.

Apart from youngster Anderson in goal one could not go past the fine left footer from Poland, Jurek Drys, as Polonia's best.

APIA Leichhardt 2 Ku-Ring-Gai 0

Venue: Gabbie Stadium
Crowd: 982
Referee: P. Wood 8
Scorers: Caban 45th, Stewart 76th.

APIA: Pezzano 7 — Sterrey 6, Bertogna 7, Stevens 7, M. Brown 6 — Bundalo 7, Butler, Hamilton 7, Colaguri 7 — Stewart 6, Caban 6.

KU-RING-GAI: Lacey 7 — Kevern 6, Bertram 7, Watson 7, Farrell 6 — Bennett 5, (McKegan 65th), Berry 5, Sutherland 6, Dene 5 — Nile 6 (Pepper 65th), Bass 6.

An improved performance by APIA, in particular midfielders Terry Butler and Alex Bundalo, paved the way for an easy 2-0 win over an enthusiastic but still far from fit Ku-Ring-Gai.

Vince Colaguri broke Kuringai's defence with a telling pass in the 45th minute for Kerry Caban to score from close range, then Arno Bertogna joined the attack close to fulltime to provide a pass which found Darren Stewart close to the line and Andrew Lacey was beaten again.

Kuringai proved to be more than just a fair opponent in this match but lacked penetration. Its defence, beaten twice, showed more than most State League clubs can offer with some brilliant keeping by Lacey and fine play by Bertram and Watson.

For APIA, Bertogna looked most impressive with his cool dominance at the back with Bundalo and Butler having a great say in midfield.

Blacktown City 1 Melita Eagles 0

Venue: Gabbie Stadium.
Crowd: 982
Referee: Terry Seacy 8
Scorers: Carroll 64th

BLACKTOWN: Hoare 7 — Willis 7, Aunsworth 7, Daley 6, Bourke 6 — Byrne 6, Sharpe 5 (53rd Northam), Bradley 7 — Carroll 6, Denyer 6, Thornthwaite 7.

MELITA EAGLES: Berry 6 — Laing 6, McAusland 7, McCoy 7, Griffiths 8 — Stone 5, Farrugia 6, Hassan 5 (Walker 41st, 6) — Farnsworth 5, Vial 6, Meerban 5, (Sertbas 69th).

Neither side showed much during the entire 80 minutes with misdirected passes and rough tackling doing little to entertain.

Melita looked slightly better during the first half but slowed to a crawl in the closing stages. It was during this time that Melita conceded a goal.

John Bradley provided the space work by sending Brett Thornthwaite through to face Peter Berry, who only managed to parry the ball to the feet of Joe Carroll who planted it into the net.

The number of changes to both sides contributed to the poor standard and it is to be hoped that rival coaches deBruin and Hoggart will improve their sides in coming encounters.

Wollongong the big improver

By PETER RUSSELL

Many would suggest that the Northern Division team of the year for 1985 was Sydney City Hakoah.

After all, it took out the National Youth League grand final from third place on the table, defeating premiers Wollongong City in

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wollongong	17	2	5	54	27	36
Canberra	16	4	4	47	29	36
SC-Hakoah	14	3	7	59	29	31
A.L.S.	11	6	7	75	50	28
St George	11	2	10	47	51	25
New Rosebud	9	6	9	25	29	24
Marconi	8	6	10	48	49	22
APIA	5	11	11	31	39	21
Innes-Monara	5	11	13	33	47	21
Syd. Croatia	6	7	11	35	49	19
Blacktown	6	5	13	39	54	17
Syd. Olympic	6	5	13	38	47	17
Penrith	6	3	15	32	51	15

British ban eased

Belgium has eased its ban on British teams, imposed after the deadly riot at last year's European Cup final in Brussels. Amateur clubs now can play in Belgium.

The Belgian cabinet imposed a blanket ban on British fans at the Heysel Stadium left 39 spectators dead.

The ban on British professional clubs will remain in force. The European Football Union (UEFA) suspended English clubs indefinitely from European soccer competitions after the Heysel disaster.

The Belgian ban also covers Scottish clubs.

and recording the season's highest home win (7-1 vs Marconi).

Blacktown City and Canberra City tied for the 'Fair Play' awards, both sides having the least number of players booked during the season, while at the other end of the spectrum, wooden spooners Penrith City earned the title of 'villains' with 16 players booked for a total of 24 yellow cards and three red cards.

Sean Fudge of Blacktown City took out the coveted 'Woodcock Bowl' as the Northern Division Youth Player of the Year with 41 points, from Craig Moffitt (St George) second with 35 points and Fabian Scialotto (Sydney Hakoah) third with 27 points.

The 1985 N.Y.L. TEAM OF YEAR for the Northern Division (with best and fairest points in brackets)

Peter Gunning (13) (Newcastle)	Sean Fudge (41, (Blacktown))
Jeff Wright (19) (Wollongong)	Fabian Scialotto (27) (SC-Hakoah)
Craig Moffitt (35) (St George)	Enrico Monsalve (24) (Marconi)
Graeme Patterson (19) (SC-Hakoah)	Abbas Saad (19) (SC-Hakoah)
Joe Caleta (16) (Syd. Croatia)	Darren Nees (21) (Woolongong)

The top ten players in the Northern Division were as follows:

1. Sean Fudge, Blacktown City 41 pts
2. Craig Moffitt St George Budapest 35 pts
3. Fab Scialotto Sydney City Hakoah 27 pts
4. Peter Ruskin Wollongong City 26 pts
5. Craig Thompson Blacktown City 26 pts
6. John Nelson Canberra Olympians 25 pts
7. Enrico Monsalve Marconi 24 pts
8. Matthew Garland Newcastle Rosebud 23 pts
9. Bruno Monterosso Inter-Monaro 21 pts
10. Darren Nees Wollongong City 21 pts

New job for Rudi

● Former Socceroo coach Rudi Gutendorf has a new challenge — saving West Berlin's No. 1 club, Hertha BSC, from relegation from the Second Division. Gutendorf accepted the job after a spectacularly successful stint in Japan. Gutendorf is pictured outside his new office.

RINGWOOD UNITED SERBIA

(Second Division Victorian League)

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The Secretary,
Ringwood United Serbia S.C.
65 Evelyn Road,
Ringwood, 3134.

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with ROCKY DI ZIO

● Buffalo Gold Cup action at Olympic Park last week. New Croydon goalkeeper Peter Blasby takes a safe grab under pressure from Box Hill striker Peter Verechica. Box Hill's Dave Azzopardi (No 11) is at right while others pictured are Dean Hennessy (left) of Box Hill and Croydon stopper Jim O'Reilly. Picture: LES SHORROCK.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE		ENGLISH DIVISION FOUR						
Bayer Muenchen	8.5	7.30	45.21	Chester	16	9	5.58	28.57
Walsall	8.0	7.30	45.21	Swindon	15	8	5.38	28.55
Sheff Wed	7.5	8.1	36.29	Mansfield	15	7	5.12	32.50
Stuttgart	7.5	8.1	33.19	Hartlepool	15	5	7.45	32.50
Cologne	5.8	6.29	33.19	Port Vale	12	9	7.44	25.45
Dortmund	5.8	6.43	19.19	Sheff Wed	12	9	7.41	21.31
Bayern	6.5	6.9	31.37	Blackburn	12	8	8.42	44.48
Kaiserslautern	5.9	6.26	30.17	Sunderland	12	8	8.02	38.41
Frankfurt	4.9	7.23	33.17	Southend	11	6	9.41	43.40
Nuremberg	4.7	7.21	34.16	Northampton	11	7	8.54	39.39
Stuttgart	4.7	7.26	25.15	Sheff Wed	11	6	9.38	41.49
Hannover	5.4	11.34	54.14	Colchester	11	5	11.48	42.38
Duesseldorf	4.3	10.28	48.11	Hereford	11	5	12.47	47.38
BELGIUM				Tramex	9	12	12.42	37.32
Watersloot	0	Mechelen	0	Waremeg	3	10	12.34	39.32
Antwerp	0	Lokorn	1	Standard Liege	9	8	10.25	39.31
Searing	1	Ghent	1	Lierse	1	10	12.51	39.32
Molenbeek	3	Club Brugge	3	Cercle Brugge	1	10	12.51	39.32
Antwerp	3	Standard Liege	3	Antwerp	8	7	10.25	39.31
Kortrijk	3	Beerschot	3	FC Liege	7	10	9.34	41.31
Club Brugge	3	Standard Liege	3	Wrexham	7	11	11.35	50.30
Antwerp	3	Standard Liege	3	Southampton	7	10	12.42	37.32
Standard Liege	9	8.37	24.26	Cambridge	8	7	14.27	62.28
Standard Liege	9	8.37	24.26	Crews	7	6	14.28	62.28
Standard Liege	9	8.37	24.26	Halifax	6	13	12.47	62.28
Standard Liege	9	8.37	24.26	Perth	5	13	12.47	62.28
Standard Liege	9	8.37	24.26	Torquay	4	5	17.21	57.17

FORZA JUVE!

tori (in buona fede o in cattiva fede non importa) non hanno avuto la possibilità di parlare, per dire la sua, e' stato insultato, umiliato e costretto ad andarsene con l'animo amareggiato e sicuramente con un proposito ancora piu' ferreo di opporsi ad un progetto viziato da "intrusioni prepotenti".

Waterschei 0 Mechelen 0, Waregem	
Antwerp 0, Lokern 1 Standard Liege	
Searing 1 GHehl 1, Lierse 1 Mole	
beek 3, Club Bruges 3, Cercle Bruges	
Anderlecht 1 Beveren 0, Charleroi	
Kortrijk and Beerschel vs FC Lie	
postponed.	
Club Bruges.....	17 3 3 51 20
Anderlecht.....	13 7 2 52 22
Ghent.....	11 6 5 37 20
Waregem.....	11 4 8 37 24
Standard Liege.....	9 8 5 33 21
Beerschel.....	0 8 5 24 20

MIDLAND DIVISION: Bilston 0 Brongrove 1, Bridgnorth 1 Slouchbridge 0, Coventry Sporting 0 Mile Oak 0, Gloucester 4 Rushden 0, Leicester United 1 Grantham 2, Merthyr 1 Sutton Goldfield 3.

VOL PREMIER DIVISION: Bishopstortford 0 Werthing 1, Beggar 3 Slough 0, Carshalton 2 Epsom 1, Tealing 1 Harrow 4, Walthamstow 0 Kingstonian 0.

Colchester	11	5	11	48	42	38
Hereford	11	5	12	47	47	38
Tranmere	11	4	12	54	42	37
Aldershot	9	5	12	34	39	32
Exeter	8	7	10	25	31	31
Peterborough	7	10	9	34	41	31
Wrexham	8	7	11	35	50	31
Scunthorpe	7	9	11	27	31	30
Cambridge	8	4	17	42	62	28
Crews	7	6	14	28	43	27
Halifax	6	8	13	32	47	26
Preston	6	6	16	33	55	24
Torquay	4	5	17	21	57	17

by
**Manos
Milios**

nasih klubova u Melburnu za novu sezonu, pa se n
damo da cemo dobiti potrebna obavestenja na vrem

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